

## Review

## A fiddler's fiddler...



Isaac Stern is the "godfather" behind Nigel Kennedy and many of the other stars who have restored the violin to pre-eminence in classical music

## Just a moment with Louise

A moment is a rally driver's euphemism for one of life's little incidents, such as a 100 mph crash. Brian James met Louise Aitken-Walker, the world champion woman driver

## WEEKEND LIVING

## Old master of fortune?

John Harrington bought a painting for \$300 in 1961 having been "psychically directed" to an auction room. Now his claims that it is a Giorgione worth tens of millions of pounds are being taken seriously

## SPORT

## Will Taylor drop Gascoigne?



David Miller believes that England may leave out Paul Gascoigne (above), for the crucial European championship match against Ireland

## WEEKEND MONEY

## The charitable treasure hunt

An astonishing £30 million has been found in unused charitable trusts. Is there more where that came from?



## Know the ropes on the slopes

A 16-page colour guide to the best winter sports comes free with The Times today

## TIMES

## Scooting off to school

Our magazine for young readers offers the chance to win one of 20 streetscoots, a hot little number from California

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## Tory gloom after by-election defeats

## Heseltine steps up challenge to silent Thatcher

By RICHARD FORD, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

MICHAEL Heseltine resumed his onslaught on the prime minister's attitude towards Europe yesterday, while his supporters stepped up the pressure on him to challenge her for the Conservative party leadership.

He said that people tended to misrepresent the role and motivations of Europe when they talked of federalism. Nobody seriously expected the creation of a federal Europe in which the member states surrendered their sovereignty to a common government. Only "a handful of people" thought such a thing conceivable.

Mr Heseltine's thinly-veiled attack on Margaret Thatcher's approach, in a speech to

businessmen in Thame, Oxfordshire, came as two senior members of his Henley constituency party urged him to take her on for the leadership. His supporters will spend the weekend weighing up his chances of mounting a successful challenge after the gloomy by-election results on Merseyside and in West Yorkshire. Some believe that he is in his strongest position to wrest the leadership from the prime minister, but others fear that any challenge would be doomed to failure and that by coming forward now he would consign himself forever to the backbenches.

Mrs Thatcher, meanwhile, will spend the weekend at Downing Street working on her speech at the Lord Mayor of London's banquet on Monday when she is likely to

restate the government's attitude towards future developments in Europe.

The prime minister made no comment yesterday on the Conservatives' poor by-election results, although she discussed them on the telephone with the party chairman, Kenneth Baker. The Conservative candidate in Bradford North was pushed into third place by the Liberal Democrats as Labour increased its majority to 9,514. In Bootle, the Conservative held on to second place in a seat Labour held with a majority of 19,465.

Neil Kinnock hailed the Labour victories as giving the Tories "notice to quit", but Conservatives had been resigned to poor results and the voting figures had little of the political shock caused by the loss of Eastbourne last month.

Mr Baker said: "They are protest votes, certainly mid-term votes. Out there we are not very popular at the moment." The prime minister remained an asset to the party as she was a strong and determined leader, he said. A leadership contest would be unnecessary and was not wanted by the overwhelming majority of the party.

Cranley Onslow, chairman of the backbench 1922 committee, said: "This isn't some golf club where you can have a contest and it does not matter. This is a very important matter and it has to be taken seriously and people have to make serious decisions. This is not the time to fool around with the luxury of dissent."

But Derek Sawbridge, the Henley party vice-chairman, joined the local mayor, David Nimmo Smith, in calling for Mr Heseltine to stand. Mr Sawbridge said: "I'd like to see it come to a leadership issue and I'd like him to win. He has more sense than the rest of the cabinet put together." Mr Nimmo Smith said: "I wish he would come out publicly and stand against her. That would clear it up once and for all."

Tony Marlow, the MP for Northampton North, thought the by-election results would make MPs with marginal seats feel more inclined to consider a change of leader to counter a growing animosity in the country to Mrs Thatcher.

Meanwhile, Sir Geoffrey Howe is working on a speech that he will deliver next week, explaining the reasons for his resignation, but his friends insisted again yesterday that he did not intend to stand against Mrs Thatcher.

Tory post-mortem, page 7  
MPs at risk, page 7  
John Curtice, page 12

## 'No poll tax' for Gulf forces

By DOUGLAS BROOM, LOCAL GOVERNMENT CORRESPONDENT

MEMBERS of the armed forces serving in the Gulf should be exempted from paying the poll tax, the government said yesterday.

New guidelines issued by the environment department called on local authorities to give special treatment to servicemen with the British forces in the Gulf. The circular also urged councils not to levy the so-called standard community charge, which is double the personal rate, on the empty homes of civilians held hostage in Iraq and Kuwait.

Under current rules single servicemen who normally live in barracks are required to

continue paying the poll tax for 61 days after they are posted abroad. Married men and single people with their own homes have to pay the poll tax for the first six months of their overseas posting, after which the standard charge is levied on their property.

Although the existing rules, like yesterday's circular, have no legal force, they have been adopted widely by councils in England and Wales.

The new guidelines urge councils to consider sensitively all cases of people caught up in the Gulf emergency. The guidelines say that councils, in any case, should wait until servicemen return

home before seeking to enforce any outstanding bills.

The blanket exemption from the poll tax will apply only to service personnel. Civilians will be offered immunity from the standard charges only.

Announcing the changes Michael Portillo, the local government minister, said: "This means that no servicemen posted abroad can be worse off, while some will gain."

A bill will be published on Monday which will exempt owners of holiday caravans from paying the standard community charge on their weekend retreats.

## Rural Ireland grudgingly toasts its First Lady

By EDWARD GORMAN, IRISH AFFAIRS CORRESPONDENT

IRELAND yesterday formally elected Mary Robinson to be its first woman president, bringing congratulations from many but a certain amount of whimsical comment from rural areas, where female emancipation is not high on the list of priorities.

In the tiny hamlet of Ardara, Co Meath, talk in Bennett's Bar was about stags and specifically about the one that got away in yesterday afternoon's hunt. To some, like Dessie Andrew, aged 31, the landlord, proudly wearing an Ireland World Cup jumper, Mrs Robinson just did not look right as president.

He was singing "Here's to you Mrs Robinson" between every pint he pulled, but he could not conceal his instinctive difficulty coming to terms

with a woman holding Ireland's highest elective office. "I don't know," he said, struggling to articulate what many outside Ireland would have said until this week were views which characterise the vast majority of men and women in rural areas of the country. "It's something in my head - it's just in my blood. I think the president should be a man and I don't agree with her views on abortion and homosexuality."

With a little prompting, he elaborated: "I'd just sooner she wasn't there. I mean, if you look at the television and you see the president coming out, you expect it to be a man with his wife sitting beside him - with a woman it leaves the man looking a bit spare, doesn't it? I don't like her attitude at all," he added. "She's very domineering, isn't she? She's got the

bit in her mouth hasn't she - the shaking fist - am I right?"

Mr Andrew would be a Fianna Fail or Fine Gael voter. Like many of them he suspects that his wife discreetly broke ranks to vote for a woman in spite of the fact that Mrs Robinson was backed by the Irish Labour party and the Marxist Workers' party. "She'd vote for whoever her mother told her to vote for," he said, "but don't be writing that or I'd be getting a divorce and I don't want a divorce, Mrs Robinson or not."

Those who would agree with him, and there were women among them in Bennett's, bear the new president no ill-will and appear happy to accept Mrs Robinson's democratic mandate.

Brian Beggan, who owns a clothing manufacturing business, was supervising a friend riding his horse, Big



My lips are sealed: Heseltine renewed his attack on the prime minister at a chamber of commerce lunch yesterday, but remained silent on a leadership challenge.

## Baker reassured of allies' readiness to go to war

By ANDREW MCEWEN, DIPLOMATIC EDITOR

JAMES Baker, the US Secretary of State, appeared last night to have settled doubts about the willingness of the Western and Arab allies to use force if necessary to liberate Kuwait.

As he flew from London to Paris on the last leg of a tour of the Middle East and Europe, it became clear that while Moscow continued to call for a peaceful solution, it would not obstruct the allies if they decided to use force. Officials travelling with Mr Baker said that Saudi Arabia, Egypt and other Arab forces, would fight alongside American and Western troops if it came to war.

Doubts continued over the attitudes of Syria and France, although both have forces in the area. Mr Baker was expected to try to clarify the French view while in Paris before flying back to Washington today. He is likely to tell President Bush that the alliance can be considered reliable.

Margaret Thatcher again strongly reaffirmed Britain's readiness to join its allies in the use of force if necessary. Speaking outside Downing

Street after talks with Mr Baker, she said: "Obviously we stand absolutely together in supporting the great international coalition that has been built up to see that aggression does not and cannot and will not pay."

"The peaceful solution would be for Iraq to get out of Kuwait, that is a master for them, we hope they will do it, if not we shall have to take the military option and see that Iraq does leave Kuwait."

Her emphasis was more belligerent in tone than Mr Baker's, and contrasted sharply with President Gorbachev who had held talks with Mr Baker in Moscow on Thursday before flying to Bonn yesterday on his first visit to the reunited Germany. Before meeting Helmut Kohl, the German chancellor, he said there was no split between America and the Soviet Union. "We are all thinking of the same thing. We must do all we can to avoid a military solution. We are right to determine to resolve it in this way, but anyone who hopes to split us from the United States, to drive a wedge in our

relations, their hopes are not justified." His remarks will have gratified Mr Baker, who was anxious to dispel an impression that Moscow and Peking might veto the use of force.

Mr Baker said he and Mrs Thatcher had spent much of their time discussing how best to "preserve and move forward the unprecedented international consensus". However, it is likely that they considered at what point the allied forces would be ready to undertake an offensive.

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Photograph, page 12  
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## Grant to visit Baghdad

By ANDREW MCEWEN



Grant: planning to lead delegation to Baghdad

THE government showed dismay bordering on anger with two Labour MPs yesterday when Tony Benn rejected its advice not to visit Iraq and Bernard Grant, left, said he would lead a separate delegation to Baghdad.

The Foreign Office reacted with icy courtesy, but ministers fear that the two MPs could give an impression that British public opinion is divided on Kuwait. Mr Hurd, the foreign secretary, fears that

Continued on page 26, col 6

## Bill aims to create 'fairer' sentences

By QUENTIN COWDRY, HOME AFFAIRS CORRESPONDENT

PLANS to make it easier for child abusers to be prosecuted were unveiled by the government yesterday, as part of a bill designed to improve the consistency and fairness of sentencing.

To the surprise of lawyers and judges, the bill contains almost all the recommendations of the 1989 Pigot review of the evidential rules governing child abuse cases. Ministers propose to scrap the "competence rules" which bar many children from giving evidence in such cases, and to allow courts to use routinely video-recorded evidence from child victims.

These measures, however, failed to prevent the bill receiving a more hostile reception than ministers had hoped. Opposition MPs, probation officers and penal reformers praised the emphasis that the bill placed on community penalties for non-violent offenders, but predicted that the proposals would, at best, only marginally reduce the jail population.

The Home Office hopes to reduce the number of thieves and burglars who are jailed by establishing new statutory sentencing guidelines, creating a broader, tougher range of community penalties and pressing courts to pay less attention to previous criminal records when sentencing.

Roy Hattersley, shadow home secretary, said that the government's new-found disenchantment with jail as a punishment for most offenders was to be welcomed, but added that a big fall in the jail population would only be realised if ministers set up a sentencing council to ensure that courts heeded the guidelines.

The bill failed to address the "scandal" of the large numbers of people held on remand in jail, often in appalling conditions, and the problem of reduced public confidence in the police and the legal system. He called for a strengthening of the Bail Act and the creation of a special tribunal to investigate alleged miscarriages of justice.

The National Association for the Care and Resettlement of Offenders welcomed the bill as a genuine attempt to reduce the unnecessary use of prison, but said that the package was marred by its support for electronic tagging, punishment for parents who failed to control delinquent children and the imposition of unusually long prison terms on persistently violent criminals.

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# BP says it lost 4p on every gallon after Iraqi invasion

By KEVIN EASON, MOTORING CORRESPONDENT

OIL company executives will tell a new enquiry by MPs that they lost 4p on every gallon of petrol sold in the last quarter, despite big rises at the pumps. BP and Shell will be expected to justify huge increases in profits when they are called before the all-party Commons select committee on energy, in the third investigation this year into petrol pricing. BP's profits quadrupled to £822 million in the three months to September, while Shell's were up 70 per cent to £1.1 billion. The profits caused an outcry among MPs, who accused the companies of profiteering at the expense of motorists. The price of petrol has risen by more than 30p a gallon during the Gulf emergency.

Oil industry executives, exasperated by constant criticism, say that the profits mask the true picture. Both companies say the figures included a large element of paper profits covering the value of oil stocks. With bulk oil prices

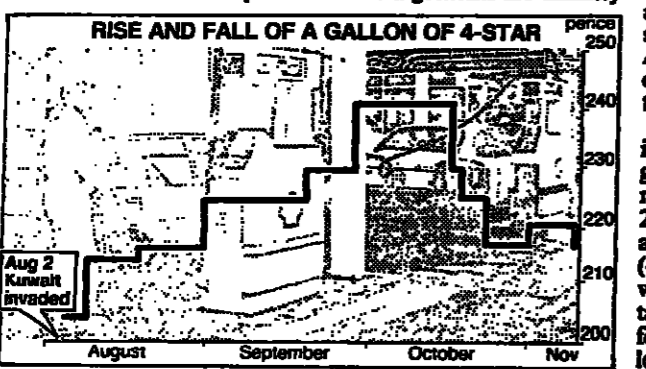
rising, the paper value of their stocks has also risen. BP buys in 40 per cent of its oil, which means the company has had to replenish much of its supply in recent weeks at the higher bulk prices being charged because of the volatility in world markets. The company said that by failing to raise pump prices quickly when Kuwait was invaded, its losses on petrol amounted to an average 4p a gallon throughout the last quarter. BP said: "These stock profits are meaningless in the cash sense. Our stocks are valued, but they have to be replaced at higher prices and are worthless until they are sold on. We also have to take the risk of buying and selling oil at the right price. The headline profits total does not tell the whole story."

Shell said: "The element of UK petrol sales is very small in comparison with Shell's worldwide business operating in 100 countries."

The arguments are unlikely to impress MPs convinced that oil firms have been trading on the panic caused by the invasion of Kuwait. Michael Clark, chairman of the energy select committee, said that he was amazed and dismayed by the size of the profits announced by Shell and BP. His committee will want a full explanation of how such profits were made at such a politically sensitive time, adding to inflation and penalising private motorists and businesses.

Whether the committee will find any new evidence of profiteering is open to question. The Monopolies and Mergers Commission cleared the industry after an enquiry, and the Office of Fair Trading found the five big oil companies in Britain not guilty of profiteering from the Gulf dispute.

Oil companies protest at having to face new questions only a month after giving evidence to the fair trading office. They also say that, although petrol prices rose steeply at the beginning of August, they dropped by 21p earlier this month, reflecting the lower cost of bulk oil. Meanwhile, Texaco is to cut its pump prices by 4.5p a gallon from midnight tomorrow, selling four-star fuel at 217.5p a gallon (47.9p a litre) and unleaded at 204.1p (44.9p). Total Oil responded with a cut of 5.4p a gallon, taking the average price of four-star to 216.9p and unleaded to 203.3p.



## Robinson praises Ireland's women

By DAVID YOUNG

MARY Robinson, who became Ireland's first woman president last night, has praised the women of Ireland. She said that "instead of rocking the cradle, they rocked the system". Mrs Robinson, a barrister, was confirmed as president of the Irish Republic after the completion of a second round of votes cast in Wednesday's election under propor-

tional representation. She secured enough second preference vote transfers from Austin Currie, of Fine Gael, to ensure victory over Brian Lenihan of Fianna Fail. She described her campaign as "a barn storming, no-holds political battle between my ad hoc assembly of political activists, of idealists, of romantic realists."

She said: "We were up against the might and the money of the greatest political party in this country and we beat them. I was elected by men and women of all parties and none, by many with great moral courage who stepped out from the faded flags of the civil war and voted for a new Ireland and above all, by the women of Ireland. Some people say that a politician's promises are worthless - well we shall see."

## Butler and cook 'stole £1m silver'

A butler and a cook pleaded guilty yesterday to stealing £1 million worth of the family treasures of the Marchioness of Zetland.

Paul Bennett, aged 33, and Margaret Russell, aged 38, worked for seven weeks at the marchioness's country home, Aske Hall, near Richmond, North Yorkshire, and then vanished. Their haul included the 1770 Richmond Cup.

The couple, who previously ran a garage in Taunton, Somerset, admitted carrying out the theft between April and June when they appeared at Teesside crown court with David Smedley, aged 44, a dealer, of Tunbridge Wells, Kent, who denied handling the silver.

They also pleaded guilty to making false statements to obtain passports. Russell also admitted obtaining £10,000 by deception when she sold silver to another dealer.

The couple were remanded in custody and Smedley's £85,000 bail was continued. He was ordered to report twice a week to the police.

## High lead levels

Levels of lead 1,000 times the legal limit were found in drinking water in Blackburn, Lancashire. It was disclosed yesterday. Some 15,000 houses could be affected. The local health authority fears children and pregnant women could be at risk from long-term exposure to lead in drinking water. The town is particularly effected because its soft water easily absorbs lead from the domestic pipes.

## Jaguar stoppage

Jaguar stopped all production and laid off 2,000 assembly workers at its Coventry factory yesterday 24 hours after the workforce balloted to accept the company's pay package. The lay-offs were caused by a shortage of car body panels from Swindon. The company said that a further 500 would be laid off on Monday and Tuesday. The workers will, however, report back on Wednesday.

## Sex bias award

Mrs Sally Lister, a teacher from Ulverston, Cumbria, was yesterday awarded £6,000 compensation by a Carlisle industrial tribunal which upheld her sex discrimination claim. She said she was not appointed deputy head of a department at Ulverston Victoria High School because the head of the department could not work with a woman, but the headmaster claimed she was not suitable for the job.

## Acid in sewers

Valve failure on a storage tank led to 50 tonnes of sulphuric acid leaking into a sewer, Warrington crown court was told yesterday. Joseph Crossfield and son, part of Unilever, pleaded guilty to the discharge and was fined £5,000 with £600 costs. Last year it was fined £1,500 for a similar offence.

## CORRECTIONS

In Thursday's appointments supplement an article about doctors abandoning medicine because of the hours and conditions was wrongly illustrated with a photograph of an unnamed doctor taken in a different context. We regret the error and any inconvenience caused to the doctor concerned.

The Times reported on October 20 that Hammer-smith and Fulham council considered withdrawing services from non-payers of the poll tax. The council says that it did not.

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## Sentence on mother delayed

A MOTHER who killed her four children is to be examined by a third psychiatrist after two others disagreed on how she should be treated, causing a judge yesterday to delay sentencing her.

Oi Tai Ngai, aged 33, has admitted strangling her children, aged between four months and five years, at their home in Basildon, Essex, on February 16, and claims grounds of diminished responsibility.

She is alleged to have been suffering from an acute psychotic illness when she committed the acts. However, two doctors cannot agree on how Mrs Ngai, aged 33, should be treated.

The case at Chelmsford was adjourned for sentencing until January. It was the third time sentencing had been delayed.

## Children 'experimenting with drugs earlier'

By JOHN O'LEARY, HIGHER EDUCATION CORRESPONDENT

CHILDREN are beginning to experiment with alcohol, tobacco and solvents at an earlier age, it was claimed yesterday at the launch of a range of advice packs for parents and primary schools. The Skills for the Primary School Child programme also aims to protect children from drugs, bullying and child abuse, as well as addressing other health and safety issues. Funded by the education department, the initiative is being run by the Advisory Council on Alcohol and Drug Addiction and Re-Solv, a charity concerned with solvent abuse.

Children under 12 will be offered a programme of instruction to enable them to protect themselves. The project is thought to be the first national programme for

the prevention of drug abuse among young children.

An average of two children a week are dying from solvent abuse, and the charity estimates that at least one child in 10 is involved in bullying, either as victim or perpetrator. Reported cases of child abuse are also rising.

Alan Howarth, a junior minister at the education department, said: "It is paramount that we do all we can to protect our children through health education. I hope that it continues to help our young people adopt healthy life styles and to resist the pressures to mis-use drugs."

The first stage of a borough's plan to link its secondary schools and colleges with local businesses to guarantee pupils jobs was launched in Wandsworth, southwest

London, yesterday. The scheme will provide a range of programmes and projects for 14 to 18-year-olds. Nine schools will take part at first, eventually taking in the borough's two colleges and its remaining secondary schools. Although similar schemes already embrace almost 100 London schools, the Wandsworth scheme is the first to cover an entire borough.

Under the scheme, called Compacts, employers agree to offer work experience, to take teachers on secondment, release staff to visit schools and guarantee jobs for pupils who achieve their Compact goals. The pupils must meet attendance and punctuality targets, complete courses and work experience satisfactorily and pass examinations in mathematics and English.

## Raiders steal £1m Turner from flat

By STEWART TENDLER, CRIME CORRESPONDENT

A TURNER painting worth £1 million and a work by the 18th century Venetian master Michele Marieschi have been stolen by a gang of thieves who bluffed their way into a London flat, attacked the owner and then cut the pictures from their frames.

Scotland Yard refused yesterday to name the owner of the paintings, a man aged 66 who was left bound, gagged and blindfolded. He was unhurt apart from a small cut to his neck.

Police have not so far linked the theft with any other art robberies. The gang knew exactly what they wanted to take, suggesting that they may have been robbing to order.

They stole a Turner entitled *Grand Junction Canal South Mill*, first shown in 1810, and *Venice with the Palazzo Pesaro* by Marieschi, which is estimated to be worth £250,000. The burglary took less than 15 minutes.

The gang struck at teatime on Thursday evening at Burton Court in Franklins Row, Chelsea. Three men called at the outer door of the block of flats and rang the bell where the paintings were kept, saying they had a parcel to deliver.

The paintings' owner then contacted the porter. The men got through the electronically-controlled outer doors without being seen by the porter, possibly entering the building with an unwitting resident. The gang donned masks and knocked at the door of their target.

The owner opened the door and was overwhelmed by the three. At one point he was threatened with a knife to the throat. He was tied up and the paintings were taken from their frames. They were then hidden inside an artist's portfolio case and the gang walked out. The flat owner, still tied, was found about 45 minutes later by his stepdaughter.

Mr Tucker said that if a passenger travelled, for some reason, without his luggage, it might follow on a later flight. The enquiry was adjourned until Monday.

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## Rogues' gallery logs on to Fu Manchu

By NICK NUTTALL, TECHNOLOGY CORRESPONDENT

FU-MANCHU, Frodo, Whale and Ping Pong, electronic offspring of the world's clandestine computer virus community, are being stored in an archive by the Metropolitan Police.

The rogues' gallery of rogue programs is being set up at New Scotland Yard's computer crime unit to act as an international police information centre. The move highlights the seriousness with which officers at the unit and foreign law enforcement agencies view the hundred or more viruses at loose in the world.

The decision also reinforces Britain's position as the focal point of an international effort to tackle the threat to databases from people who, for vanity or profit, break into or tamper with the sensitive

electronic files. Computer viruses are self-replicating programs which can infect computers through the exchange of floppy discs, down telephone lines or through electronic communication systems from where they can undermine systems and damage electronic files.

Barry Donovan, one of the unit's four officers, said: "We have recently been made aware of a number of serious viruses. We look on this as a potential threat and we want to be prepared."

Under the Computer Misuse Act, it is an offence to modify data on a computer and it can carry a maximum five-year sentence. Mr Donovan said the unit was determined to extradite people suspected of writing viruses.

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# Race abuse soldier given right to claim compensation

THE army's decision to deny a black soldier compensation or any other form of redress after he suffered racial abuse was quashed in the High Court yesterday.

Two judges ruled that army investigations into former Private Stephen Anderson's complaint that he was punched, kicked and called "nigger" by fellow members of the Devon and Dorset Regiment were flawed. Lord Justice Taylor and Mr Justice Morland set out a series of guidelines to be followed by the Army Board of the Defence Council when it reconsiders the case.

Michael Day, chairman of the Commission for Racial Equality, said: "I am delighted for Mr Anderson and delighted that the judgment seems to extend the scope to redress discrimination." Mr Anderson, aged 24, of Stratford-upon-Avon, said: "I don't know what to say."

The commission had backed the former private's application for judicial review, regarding it as an important test case to establish that serving members of the armed forces should not be treated less favourably than

civilians in racial discrimination investigations. The Army Board had claimed it was not bound by the same rules as those which apply when civilians bring claims for compensation under the 1976 Race Relations Act.

The judges agreed that the board had a wider discretion over its own investigations, but that in Mr Anderson's case it had taken an approach which was "seriously defective". Mr Day said that the army had denied Mr Anderson



Anderson: "gobsmacked" by High Court decision

"access to justice which anybody in any other occupation would be allowed through an industrial tribunal."

"Its broad lesson isn't just in the army. People hide behind procedures and deny people justice and that's how discrimination is perpetuated. Institutional behaviour and regulations deny people natural justice. This judgment has opened that up with great significance."

Mr Anderson said his three-year battle to win redress had been a long struggle but had been worthwhile. His victory was only partial. Mr Stephen Sedley QC, his counsel, said the former soldier should have the right to a new oral hearing and to cross examine witnesses.

Lord Justice Taylor said the Army Board had adopted an inflexible approach and failed to consider the request for an oral hearing on its merits.

A hearing did not necessarily have to be oral with cross-examination of witnesses in all cases. That was a matter for discretion of the board, provided that it acted fairly. The judges agreed with Mr Sedley that Mr Anderson was entitled to see all the documents put before the board — a right previously denied him by the army.

Lord Justice Taylor said: "Except where public interest immunity is established, I see no reason why... the board should consider material withheld from the complainant."

Mr Anderson, who joined the army in September 1983, was the only black soldier in his platoon. He was discharged on medical grounds because of flat feet in April 1988 after he alleged racial abuse had taken place in Berlin and at his regiment's home base at Bulford, Wiltshire. Two soldiers were subsequently disciplined.

The judge said Mr Anderson complained to his commanding officer, who refused redress, and then pursued the matter unsuccessfully to brigade and district level and eventually to the Army Board.

In April 1987 he went absent without leave, blaming the abuse he had suffered for his actions. He was arrested the following September and was later court-martialled.

Lord Justice Taylor criticised the two army board members for considering Mr Anderson's case separately and reaching their conclusions without ever meeting.

## Few recruits from ethnic minorities

By MICHAEL EVANS, DEFENCE CORRESPONDENT

THE case of former Private Stephen Anderson is not the first to make the army think about its policy on alleged racial discrimination.

The opinion, often proffered at the staff colleges at Warminster and Camberley, is that since people who seek a career in the army reflect the prejudices of society as a whole, there will be personnel who have racist tendencies.

Cases of alleged racial discrimination in the armed forces — and in the police — have a greater impact in the public eye, however, than allegations arising in other parts of society. Racial abuse, like bullying, is perceived to be symptomatic of an underlying feature of service life.

The army says that it is only the negative cases that make the headlines and people from the ethnic minorities who are content with their careers have no reason to speak out.

Nevertheless, race has become an important issue for all three services in recent years. Not least because of the need in the government's eyes to attract more recruits from ethnic minorities. Since Asian and Afro-Caribbean immigration began in the late 1950s and early 1960s, few have applied to join the services.

A defence ministry report showed that in 1988, out of 21,135 applicants for the Royal Navy and Royal Marines, only 1.4 per cent were from non-white groups. Out of 50,368 applicants for the army, 1.7 per cent were from ethnic minorities. In the case of the RAF, 1.5 per cent of the 17,242 applicants were from ethnic minorities.

In regions such as Wales, Scotland and the north of England, the number of such applicants was almost negligible. Fear of racial discrimination is not the only reason for the lack of recruits. In a survey carried out on behalf of the defence ministry, Peat Marwick McLintock, management consultants, asked a



Southwell: among the Bar's high priests and regarded as one of its leading intellectual lights, he is more traditional than Mr Scrivener



Scrivener: an approachable and popular member of the Bar, with an image many would like to see non-Oxbridge, down-to-earth and in touch

## Clash of styles in fight for Bar chair

By FRANCES GIBB, LEGAL AFFAIRS CORRESPONDENT

BATTLE lines will be drawn at the annual general meeting of the Bar today when, in what is believed to be an unprecedented move, a formal challenge is made for the influential post of chairman of the 6,000-strong profession in England and Wales. It could mean the vote being put to a postal ballot of the whole Bar Council.

The challenge in the election is being made by Richard Southwell, QC, prime architect of the Bar's response to the government's legal reforms, who is opposing the election of Anthony Scrivener, QC, the deputy chairman. The candidates have contrasting styles: Mr Scrivener is relaxed and informal, while Mr Southwell is "in the oldest, highest tradition of the Bar".

Normally, deputy chairmen automatically get the chairmanship. Dissatisfaction in some quarters with Mr Scrivener in the role of deputy chairman has, however, led to the challenge.

One senior barrister said: "The challenge really is almost unheard of and very divisive. Although their policies are not that dissimilar, they are markedly different in style."

At the heart of the challenge is a view, as one QC put it, that: "Tony Scrivener has not pulled his weight in the last year. He has spent a lot of time on cases, including a fair amount of time in Hong Kong. Also, some people feel

he rather shoots from the hip, and that his judgment is not always sound."

It is argued, however, that Mr Southwell's personality is against him. "He is intellectually arrogant and does not suffer fools gladly," the QC said.

The two candidates have different followings. Mr Scrivener is popular with the rank and file, and is the acknowledged leader of the Campaign for the Bar, a group of barristers who took the Bar Council by storm in 1986 and whose policies were instrumental in bringing about a more democratic electoral system. Mr Southwell, on the other hand, is one of the Bar's key policy makers and his work on the profession's response to the government's legal reforms has won wide respect.

Meanwhile, a parallel contest is being fought for the deputy chairmanship between Gareth Williams, QC, (also a Campaign for the Bar candidate) and Roger Henderson, QC, chairman of the Bar's key public affairs committee and counsel to the King's Cross enquiry in 1988.

If the chairmanship is put to the whole Bar Council, barristers predict a close result. Whatever the outcome, there are fears that the split will weaken their ranks at a time when new rules are being drawn up to allow solicitors into the higher courts.



Covering her face with her hand, Karen Smith, aged 19, being taken to the criminal court in Bangkok yesterday, where she pleaded guilty to drug smuggling charges. Miss Smith, from Solihull, West Midlands, was arrested with Patricia Cahill, aged 17, on July 18 last year, for possession of heroin. The sentence is expected to be given next month. Miss Cahill, who has pleaded not guilty, goes on trial next Tuesday in the juvenile court because she is aged 17.

Diana Gordon, page 12

## Judge berates appeal court rulings

By GEOFF KING

A JUDGE at the Central Criminal Court yesterday strongly criticised the Court of Appeal for taking away what he described as the "authority and dignity" of trial judges by "derisively" reducing proper sentences.

Judge Clarkson said his "fighting words" voiced a concern of many judges who

remained silent about interference by the appeal court. He said the way it dealt with sentences was deplorable. His remarks came as he put a burglar aged 17 on probation.

"The Court of Appeal are reducing sentences in a way that is derisory and derogates from the authority and the dignity of Her Majesty's

judges who pass the sentences," he said.

"There are judges in the land who are conscientiously weighing up sentences in the interests of both the defendant and the public, and the sentences are being interfered with by the Court of Appeal in a way that takes away a good deal of the dignity and respon-

sibility of the working judiciary."

John Blotfield, QC, an East Anglian circuit judge, since 1982, was yesterday sworn in as a High Court judge. Mr Justice Blotfield, aged 58, who was called to the Bar of Lincoln's Inn in 1956, will sit in the Queen's Bench Division.

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Kate Saunders on the huntin' scene, in tomorrow's *Sunday Times*.

## Ron and Nancy

"It was from Nancy that I learned that many people felt Don Regan, the White House chief of staff, had an oversized ego that made him difficult to deal with."

Ronald Reagan, from his autobiography, in the *Sunday Times* tomorrow.

## Alternative wine

The best new wines, from areas such as California and Australia, modelled on the classics. *The Alternative Wine Guide*, in the *Magazine* tomorrow.

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## CRIMINAL JUSTICE BILL

## Balanced package of reforms pledged

By QUENTIN COWDRY  
HOME AFFAIRS  
CORRESPONDENT

GREATER consistency in sentencing, more successful prosecutions in child abuse cases and fewer jail terms for petty offenders were promised yesterday as the government published a criminal justice bill, widely seen as the most important for a generation.

David Waddington, the home secretary, said that the bill was a "balanced package" designed to satisfy the public's demands for exemplary penalties for criminals such as rapists, murderers and drugs traffickers and the need for more property offenders to be saved from hardening and costly jail sentences.

The broad thrust of the bill — the extension of statutory sentencing guidelines, reform of the parole system and the introduction of a wider range of community penalties — was expected. There was one big surprise. The bill also contains measures, recommended by Judge Pigot, QC in a report a year ago, to make it easier to bring child abuse cases to court and to reduce stress on children giving evidence.

The decision raises the prospect of child abuse cases being transferred directly to crown court, avoiding criminal proceedings; the routine use of video-recorded evidence from children in abuse trials; and an

## Main points

- Creation of a more coherent sentencing framework and sharper differences in punishments between violent and non-violent offenders
- New statutory sentencing guidelines to cover most criminals
- A broader, more effective range of community penalties
- Introduction of "unit fine" system
- Changes in prisoner release rules so that all inmates spend longer in jail
- Penalties for parents who willfully fail to control delinquent children
- Contracting-out of court escort duties and the management, on a trial basis, of a remand centre
- Abolition of competence rules in child abuse cases and use of video-recorded evidence from child witnesses

end to courts questioning children before trials to test their competence as witnesses.

The bill seeks to achieve greater sentencing consistency by imposing new statutory guidelines on courts. With the exception of the most heinous

criminals, the guidelines would allow imprisonment only if an offence was "so serious" as to rule out a community penalty or to protect the public from "serious harm". In addition, those deciding sentences would have to explain in court why jail was appropriate.

As expected, however, Mr Waddington, a former judge, has watered down his original proposal that courts should generally disregard previous convictions when sentencing. Faced by strong protests from judges and magistrates, he has decided that courts should be able to take into account the "circumstances" of past offences. Relevant factors could be whether previous crimes involved violence or the threat of violence.

At a press conference yesterday, Mr Waddington denied suggestions that the sentencing criteria were too vague and that, under the new regime, courts would take previous convictions into account as much as they have done until now. Courts were highly skilled in weighing the relative seriousness of offences, he said. They needed to be encouraged to draw a

greater distinction between violent and non-violent offences when deciding punishments. Significantly, Mr Waddington dampened expectations that the proposals would lead to a big fall



How a child witness is interviewed by television link

in Britain's high prison population. He considered the bill's main aim to be improving the consistency and fairness of sentencing, not easing jail overcrowding. "If the end result is a fall in the prison population ... I will be very glad, but that is not the prime objective," he said.

The drive to punish more property offenders outside jail is also reflected by the proposals for a wider, more demanding range of community penalties and fines that are closely based on ability to

would mean that all prisoners would serve a greater proportion of their sentences in jail. All inmates serving sentences longer than a year become eligible for parole, a discretionary process, after completing a third of their terms. Under the proposed regime, all inmates serving terms of four years or more would only be eligible for parole at the mid-sentence point. Remission, under which all sentences, save those for life prisoners, are automatically cut by a third, would be abolished.

Ministers, in spite of strong protests, have also pressed ahead with proposals to penalise parents who wilfully neglect delinquent children. They will also allow private security firms to escort prisoners to and from courts, an exercise that engages 2,200 police and prison officers each working day. Juvenile courts would be able to base fines on the means of the parent rather than the child and to bind parents over in the good behaviour of their offspring.

Other proposals include more flexible powers for the courts to deal with offenders aged 16 and 17; the abolition of jail terms for boys aged 14; and an exemption clause to allow courts to impose unusually long jail terms on persistently violent criminals.

Leading article, page 13



John Patten and David Waddington conferring at the criminal justice bill press conference yesterday

## Child videos in court after study

By JAMIE DETTMER

THE decision by Home Office ministers to include in the criminal justice bill provisions for children to give evidence in sexual abuse and assault cases on video and through closed circuit television comes after a successful pilot project in 18 crown courts.

The Lord Chancellor's department, responding to concern about abuse cases collapsing because child witnesses were "freezing" when questioned in open court, sanctioned the experimental use of video evidence in January 1989.

A change in the law, so that child victims of abuse need not give evidence in open court, was called for by an advisory committee chaired by Judge Pigot, QC, in December last year. The committee accepted that children were disturbed by giving evidence in open court and that the "overweening nature of court formalities made the experience harmful, oppressive and often traumatic".

The Pigot committee recommended that video re-

cordings of a child witness should be made before the trial in a preliminary hearing in informal surroundings, as that would give the court access to an important source of evidence.

Courts in the pilot project were already using pre-trial video evidence in abuse cases recorded by police officers and social workers. In September 1989, a father aged 50 was sentenced to eight years imprisonment after a court saw the video evidence of a girl aged six. The courts have also seen children being cross-examined through a live television link-up, as the witness gave evidence in a different room.

Before the experiment, children would often be screened from view when giving evidence in court, so that the defendants could not see them. In one case at the Central Criminal Court, a camera and screen was brought in to allow the defendants to see the children give evidence, while ensuring that the children could not see the defendants.

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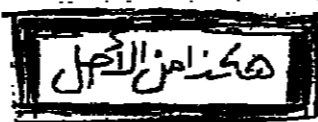
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# Scientists 'build' antibody to fight infectious disease

By NIGEL HAWKES, SCIENCE EDITOR

BRITISH scientists have produced the first custom-built human antibody that can be used to treat an infectious disease.

The antibody is effective in mice against the virus that is the main cause of respiratory infections in young children and may also cause up to half of Britain's 2,000 cot deaths every year. The new treatment is expected to go on clinical trial in human patients soon.

Bill Harris, managing director of Scotgen, a small company established by Professor Harris and other leading British experts in genetic engineering, used a technique developed at the Medical Research Council's molecular biology laboratory in Cambridge for producing large quantities of antibodies. Such antibodies are in principle the ideal way of helping the body defeat attacks by viruses, which cannot be eliminated by conventional drugs such as antibiotics.

The problem has been producing human antibodies in sufficient amounts. The Scotgen method, discovered by Dr Greg Winter at Cambridge, consists of starting with mouse antibodies, and "humanising" them by genetic and protein engineering so that they can be given to human patients without being recognised as foreign material and rejected. Mouse antibodies can be produced in sufficient amounts by infecting mice repeatedly with RSV and harvesting the antibodies

year, no comparable figures exist for Britain, partly because the virus is difficult to detect.

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produced, a process that would not be ethically acceptable in humans.

The antibodies finally produced are a blend of human and mouse elements. "They are 95 per cent human," Professor Harris says. So far they have not been tested on humans, but a single dose has proved sufficient to cure infected mice, even when the RSV had been given four days to establish itself before treatment.

Professor Harris says that the antibodies will work as both a prophylactic against infection and as a treatment. The first clinical trials will be carried out on volunteers as soon as a collaborating hospital has been identified.

Dick van Velzen, professor of foetal and infant pathology at the Royal Liverpool children's hospital, welcomed the development, but although he believes that up to 1,000 cot deaths a year in Britain can also be attributed to RSV, he doubts that the antibody can do much to help. Babies who die suddenly in their cots often show no previous symptoms of infection, so they would not have been treated.



Ship shape: 3rd officer Tanya Luffman, who found herself far too busy to socialise on the month's voyage

## Wrens take break from warship life

By BILL FROST

SEVENTEEN Wrens, the first to serve on a frontline warship, began a welcome weekend's leave yesterday after a month at sea cheek by jowl with the 240 male crew of the frigate HMS Brilliant.

The Brilliant docked in the Pool of London yesterday morning where she will remain until Monday. Her crew will then rejoin the vessel and sail to Devonport.

The Wrens seemed to be none the worse for their voyage, although some admitted to bouts of sea-sickness during a gale last week. "We had a couple of bumpy days

and it was difficult trying to shower as the water stopped out of the cubicle," said Jan Whittle, aged 23, from Coventry. Storms of a different kind had greeted the announcement that the Wrens were putting to sea at all. Anxious navy wives said that their husbands and boyfriends

could become involved in shipboard "romance." "Absolute rubbish. We are far too busy to socialise," said 3rd officer Tanya Luffman, aged 19, from Cardiff. Melanie Sharp, aged 23, agreed: "After an 18-hour day, in rough weather we would far sooner go to our own mess deck for some women's talk."

Joanne Mason, aged 26, from St Austell, Cornwall, said that her husband had been doubtful about her joining the crew. She had no complaints, however, about the way she was treated by her male shipmates. "It has all been a good laugh. The lads would like us to take a saucer of milk out to the Seacat, but naturally we know it's a missile."

Leading radio operator John Hickman said: "A couple of the older guys were a bit uncomfortable about having women aboard a warship. But they need not have worried. The girls pitched in and they are just like us now... well, almost."

Captain Richard Cobbold said that any reservations he had harboured were soon dispelled. He even said that one of the Wrens, 3rd officer Alison Traherne, could end up commanding her own warship, or even as First Sea Lord. Praise indeed, and from a man, too.

## Drug case decision deferred

A decision on whether 2,500 former-tranquilliser users can sue the drug companies which they claim turned them into addicts, was deferred by Mr Justice Kennedy at Bristol crown court yesterday.

Paul Balan, one of the solicitors representing the former addicts, said: "We are very pleased. The co-ordinating arrangements are now in place." It is understood that the judge will announce his decision next week.

The group, represented by 547 solicitors, want compensation from two companies that produce benzodiazepines, the British Wyeth Laboratories, which makes the drug under the name of Anivan, and the Swiss-owned Roche Products, which makes Valium. If successful, the subsequent case would be the largest personal injuries action to be launched in England.

## Bombing checks

Irish police are investigating the possibility of links between an IRA "proxy" bombing and the arrest of six men just across the border after the explosion in which five soldiers and a civilian died on October 24 at a checkpoint outside Londonderry. The IRA forced a man to drive a car to the checkpoint which was packed with 750lb of explosives.

## Shipyards cuts

More than 300 jobs are to be lost at the Cammell Laird shipyard in Merseyside, it was announced yesterday, as orders for three Royal Navy nuclear-powered submarines have been completed. VSEL, the owner, announced last month that it was looking for a buyer for the Buckenhead yard, but it would have to close if one could not be found. The 309 jobs are likely to disappear in the new year.

## Murder charge

A woman is to face for the second time a charge of murdering her 10-month-old nephew. Watfield magistrates had ordered a charge that Amina Karim, aged 52, murdered her nephew Sumair Zaher be scrapped because there was no case to answer. However, Mr Justice Ognall granted an application by the Crown Prosecution Service yesterday effectively reinstating charges of murder.

## Anglican-Catholic talks to move on

By RUTH GLEDHILL, RELIGIOUS AFFAIRS REPORTER

TALKS between the Anglican and Roman Catholic churches will take a big step forward next year with the publication of a long-awaited document which the Vatican has been accused of suppressing, it was disclosed yesterday.

The document is likely to confirm that the issue of the ordination of women could be a serious handicap in Catholic recognition of Anglican orders. A senior Vatican figure said that the Catholic church would shortly publish its response to the joint theological statement of the Anglican-Roman Catholic International Commission (ARCIC II), which meets for the first time next week, will probably decide on the "Ordination of Women" Measure in 1992. The first woman bishop was consecrated in America in 1988.

Archbishop Edward Cassidy, president of the Pontifical Council for Promoting Christian Unity, has said that the ordination of women had created "a major difficulty" between Rome and Canterbury. Last night, he added that this would be reflected in the official reply to ARCIC II.

Dr George Carey, Archbishop of Canterbury-designate, has said that he favours closer relations with Rome and that he supports the ordination of women to the priesthood.

Carey: in favour of closer relations with Rome

## Wallabies escape as bird stolen from zoo

By NICHOLAS WATT

A GROUP of wallabies escaped yesterday from their cage at Whipsnade wild animal park, Bedfordshire, after thieves cut through fencing to steal a rare scarlet macaw.

By last night zoo keepers had recaptured two of the albino wallabies, which are part of Britain's only breeding colony.

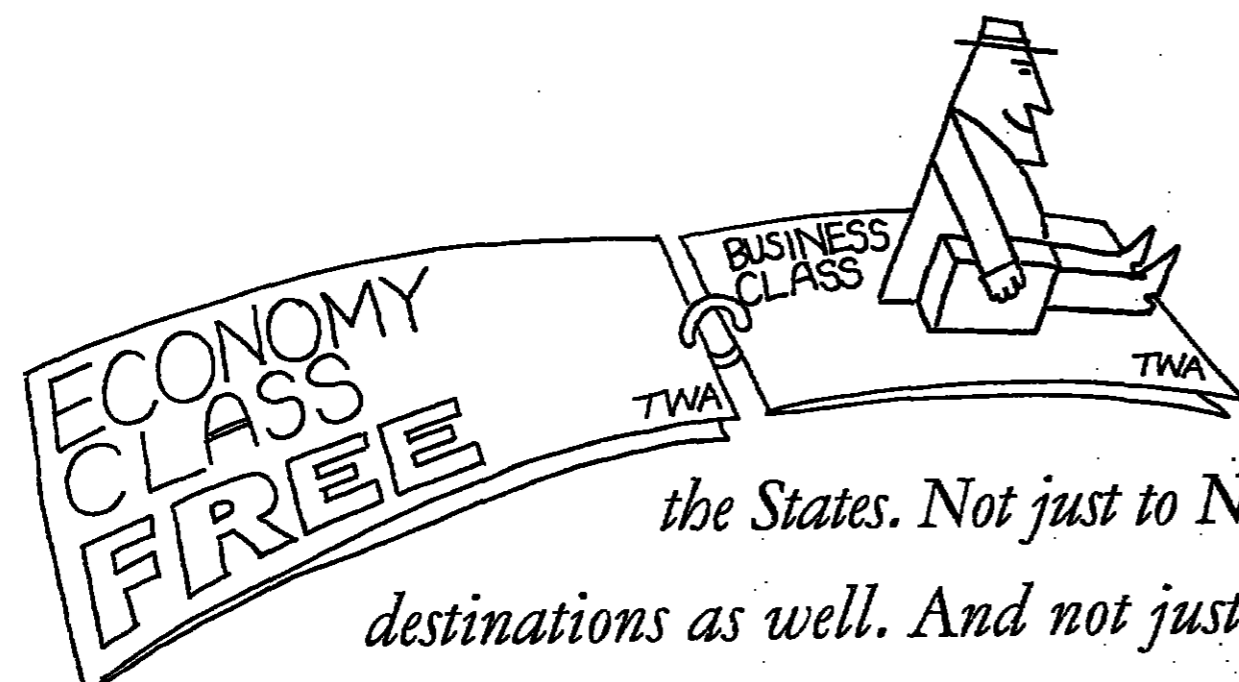
The theft of the macaw, called Jessie, is believed to be part of a multi-million-pound black market in rare birds that is threatening the survival of the psittacine species, that includes parrots and the macaw. Jessie was only one of four at the park and the second to be stolen in less than a year.

Richard Kock, the park's curator, said the macaw was

worth up to £5,000 and would probably be smuggled to Belgium where dealers or a prospective owner would be waiting.

Whipsnade, which has lost almost 20 birds during the past 18 months, is so concerned for their safety that it has decided to stop breeding the psittacine species and to keep only a few of the birds for demonstrations. A group of 14 galahs, a gift from the Australian government, was stolen 18 months ago, followed a few months later by a scarlet macaw and a cockatoo. The thieves took advantage yesterday of the park's faulty alarm system. Keepers said they had worked out the route carefully and had little difficulty in breaking into the 360-acre park.

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# Battle lines drawn as Scots prepare for Paisley by-elections

By KERRY GILL

FORTY years of control over local politics in Paisley is unlikely to do the Labour party any good in the by-elections at Paisley North and South at the end of this month.

Labour's majorities of 14,442 and 15,785 respectively look certain to be badly mauled if not toppled by the Scottish National Party candidates. An early poll of the constituencies has shown that Labour is already facing defections. The survey found that for

every three Labour sympathisers, five were planning to vote for the nationalists. There is talk of another Govan, where two years ago the nationalists overthrew a Labour majority of more than 19,000 to win.

Michael Hirst, president of the Scottish Conservative and Unionist Association, said that the nationalists appeared to have the upper hand.

"What our work shows is that there is nervousness on the part of the Labour party," he also acknowledged that Paisley could turn into another Govan.

"It could be. Our target is to perform respectably."

The two-horse race between Labour and the nationalists will be decided on local issues such as housing, unemployment, the poll tax and blunders by the district council, including the payment of £1.3 million to a building contractor who later went bankrupt without completing work.

Gordon McMaster, Labour candidate for Paisley South, is the former leader of Renfrew district council. Yesterday he said that the council officers who had

been responsible for the payment had been disciplined and that the auditor had subsequently reported that proper council procedures had been in place.

Donald Dewar, Labour's spokesman on Scotland, has turned his attention to the announcement this week that the Clydebank tube works in Bellshill, Lanarkshire is to close with the loss of 1,200 jobs. He said that there was a strong case for the retention of a Scottish steel industry, and that all options to save it remained open.

Iain Lawson, the nationalist candi-

date for Paisley South and the party's spokesman on steel and industry, said that British Steel had given guarantees at the time of privatisation, promising to consider the sale of Scottish assets they no longer needed. Mr Lawson urged Malcolm Rifkind, the Scottish secretary, to win cabinet approval to call in the guarantees within seven days.

"This announcement showed the total contempt with which we are treated by London," Mr Lawson said. "The only solution is Scottish control of our own affairs, with an independent

Scottish steel industry and an independent Scottish parliament within the European Community."

General election, 1987.

Paisley North: Adams (Lab), 20,193; McCartin (SDP/All), 5,751; Laing (C), 5,741; Taylor (SNP), 4,696. Lab majority: 14,442.

Paisley South: Buchanan (Lab), 21,611; Carmichael (L/All), 5,826; Williamson (C), 5,644; Milne (SNP), 5,398. Lab majority: 15,785.

## Tory post-mortem after lacklustre poll performances

By RICHARD FORD, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

CONSERVATIVE party officials will hold a review into all aspects of the organisation's lacklustre by-election campaign in Bradford North, where the government took third place behind the Liberal Democrats.

Although Joy Atkin was a nervous and hesitant candidate, she faced other obstacles that would have defeated even the strongest candidate. The campaign in the marginal seat took place against a strong Labour lead in the opinion polls nationally and with the high interest and mortgage rates making the Conservatives deeply unpopular among their own supporters.

The last week of her campaign, however, was dominated by what Kenneth Baker described as "noises off", the resignation of Sir Geoffrey Howe and Michael Heseltine's letter criticising the prime minister's style of leadership.

While the seat was nominally a marginal, the Conservatives had held it from 1983-87 only in the exceptional circumstances caused by Labour's internal problems. In 1983 Ben Ford, the former MP, had been deselected but stood as an independent, split the Labour vote and brought victory for the Tories. Four years later Pat Wall, Labour's hard left candidate, helped the Conservatives come within

1,633 votes of retaining the seat.

No such mistake was made by Labour in its choice of candidate for the by-election. Terry Rooney, a cautious, down Kinnockite, had strong local roots as deputy leader of Bradford metropolitan council and credentials for helping to remove the Militant influence from the local party. He also had the backing of a campaigning team which was far superior to that provided for Miss Atkin.

Having ruled out changes to the way by-election candidates are chosen, the Tories' post-mortem into their defeat will concentrate on how the party's by-election campaigning can be strengthened. Campaign literature has already been improved and candidates are likely to be given more extensive media training to help them to handle the intense press attention peculiar to by-elections.

Miss Atkin's limitations were cruelly exposed during the daily press conference when, in addition to her nervousness, she at times had difficulty answering questions on government policies. Her campaign was launched without a cabinet minister in attendance and election leaflets showed her posing in a graveyard. She was also ill at ease when canvassing.

The room in which her daily

press conference was held was too small, allowing journalists to sit within a few feet of the candidate. She had received little media training and in spite of being born in Bradford, had a genteel southern image. On the campaign trail, photographers were able to take the initiative in getting the pictures they wanted rather than the other way round. As one Labour party official commented: "These were lessons we learned long ago."

Miss Atkin's campaign was not helped by the absence of a number of days of Tony Garrett, the party's head of campaigning. He spent some time in Bootle on Merseyside ensuring that the Conservatives held on to second place.

Although Bootle is one of the safest Labour seats in the country, Mr Garrett had to divide his energies between the Merseyside seat and Bradford North. He was determined to prevent a damaging blow to party morale in the event of a lost deposit.

The Bootle by-election was won by Joe Benton with a majority of 78 per cent. James Clappison took the Tories to second place with a margin of 371 votes over John Cunningham, the Liberal Democrat candidate.

In the Bootle by-election in May, the Conservatives had come within 41 votes of being pushed into third place.

William Hill, the book-makers, have lengthened the Tories' odds of winning the next general election from 6/5 to 5/4, the party's longest odds since Mrs Thatcher came to power. Labour, whose odds shortened to 4/7 from 9/13, is now reckoned to have its best chance of victory at any time since Mr Kinnock became leader.

William Hill says, however, that people still believe Mrs Thatcher will lead the Conservatives into the next election.

John Curcio, page 12



Bootle victor Joe Benton celebrates with wife Doris

## How the Tories elect their leader

By RICHARD FORD, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

ANY contest for the leadership of the Conservative party must begin within 28 days of the opening of Parliament, with the arrangements being agreed between the leader and the chairman of the 1922 backbone committee.

Margaret Thatcher and Craxley Onslow exercised their prerogative to fix a date within the 28-day period when they agreed a timetable last Tuesday. Nominations close on Thursday and if there is a contest, voting takes place the following Tuesday.

Under rules changed after last year's challenge by Sir Anthony Meyer, the names of the proposers and seconders of candidates are published. Mrs Thatcher has been proposed by Douglas Hurd and seconded by John Major.

Conservative MPs would cast their vote by secret ballot in a Commons committee room. Mr Onslow is to ask Sir Bernard Braine, the father of the House, Sir Michael Shaw and Dame Janet Fookes to act as scrutineers if necessary, a task they carried out last year. Then, voting took place be-

tween 10am and 6pm with Mr Onslow announcing the result at 6.25pm. If there is a contest on November 22, he is considering reducing the voting time.

To win on the first round, a candidate must obtain an overall majority plus 15 per cent more votes than the runner-up. If that did not happen, a second ballot would take place on November 27, with nominations closing on Thursday November 22. Nominations of candidates from the first ballot become void and other candidates can enter the fray. On the second ballot, a candidate must obtain an overall majority for victory.

If necessary, a third ballot between the three highest placed candidates would take place on November 29. Voting then would be on a preference basis. If no overall majority is gained, the bottom candidate is eliminated and their supporters' second choices redistributed between the remaining two. The candidate with the overall majority is elected leader.

attended by the public were rendered virtually meaningless because the outcome of every debate had already been decided behind closed doors.

The report, by Professor Ken Young, of London University, and Mary Davies, of the Institute of Local Government Studies at Birmingham University, found that councillors were also taking a bigger part in appointing middle-ranking council officers, especially in the big cities.

"Partisan conduct is rapidly becoming commonplace with members of both major parties increasingly bound by group decisions and with more consistently partisan voting in both council and committee meetings," the report said. While Labour councils remained more politically partisan than those under Tory control, figures showed that Conservatives were rapidly catching up. The study was undertaken to examine

changes in local government since the publication of the Widdicombe report in 1986 on the conduct of municipal business. The researchers found that in the intervening four years party discipline in councils had grown tighter. Councillors were required to toe the party line in more than 80 per cent of votes taken at council meetings in urban areas. In rural areas, half of all votes were the subject of the local government equivalent of a parliamentary three-line whip.

The report concluded that while councillors were now more likely to wear a party badge and follow the party line, the style adopted by each local party was tailored to local circumstances.

Local Government since Widdicombe (Joseph Rowntree Foundation, 40 Water End, York YO3 6LP, £5.50)

## Northern MPs at risk after 22.8% swing

By ROBIN OAKLEY, POLITICAL EDITOR

THE Bradford result and the 22.8 per cent decline in the Conservative share of the vote will have sent shivers down the spines of some northern Tory MPs. A movement of votes on a similar scale at the next election would mean the defeat of Lynda Chalker, the overseas aid minister, Michael Fallon, the education minister and Peter Morrison, the prime minister's parliamentary private secretary. Tom Sackville, the Tory Whip, is another who would face defeat on a swing of less than 5 per cent and so is David Trippier, minister of state at the environment department and the Conservative deputy chairman in charge of organisation in marginal seats.

On the basis of voting figures at the 1987 general election, the following Conservative-held seats in northern England (Scottish seats are not included) would fall to Labour at the next general election on a national swing from Conservative to Labour of 5 per cent or less:

Seat	Sitting MP	% Swing needed	1987 C majority over Lab	Votes % in 3rd party
York	C Gregory	0.1	147	9,886 15.9 SDP/All
Walsley	Mrs L Chalker	0.25	279	9,888 15.6 SDP/All
Bolton NE	P Thurnham	0.85	813	6,080 13.0 SDP/All
Leeds NE	K Hind	1.1	1,353	8,972 14.8 SDP/All
Bradley & Spen	Mrs E Peacock	1.15	1,382	8,972 14.3 SDP/All
Ellersmere Pt and Neston	M Woodcock	1.6	1,853	8,143 14.1 SDP/All
Langbaurgh	R Holt	1.65	2,088	12,405 18.9 L/All
Tynesburgh	N Trotter	2.2	2,583	10,448 18.0 L/All
Hyndburn	K Hargreaves	2.3	2,220	7,483 15.2 SDP/All
Darlington	M Fallon	2.5	2,581	6,289 11.8 L/All
Pendle	J Lee	2.55	2,639	12,882 24.3 L/All
Bury South	D Sunberg	2.6	2,679	6,772 13.1 SDP/All
Stockport	T Fowell	3.05	3,055	10,365 22.1 SDP/All
Warrington S	C Butler	3.05	3,059	13,112 22.4 L/All
Furness	C Franks	3.6	3,928	7,799 14.2 SDP/All
Bolton W	T Sackville	4.1	4,593	10,398 18.6 SDP/All
Penrith and Darwen	D Trippier	4.15	4,982	9,097 15.1 L/All
Chester	P Morrison	4.6	4,855	10,282 19.3 L/All
Elmet	S Ballista	4.9	5,356	8,755 16.0 SDP/All

These seats would fall on a swing of between 5 and 10 per cent, seeing the disappearance from the Commons of sports minister Robert Atkins and Alistair Burt, PPS to the party chairman.

Seat	Sitting MP	% Swing needed	1987 C majority over Lab	Third place votes and % (all Lab)
Caldar Valley	D Thompson	5.1	6,045	13,781 22.1 L/All
Kaighley	G Waller	5.35	5,508	10,041 19.2 L/All
Bury N	A Burt	6.15	6,829	8,804 12.1 L/All
Chorley	D Dover	6.65	8,057	9,708 18.1 L/All
South Ribbles	N Trotter	7.05	8,430	11,746 18.7 L/All
Lancaster	E Kellie-Bowman	7.3	8,453	9,903 19.3 L/All
Blackpool S	Sir P Bisher	7.55	8,744	8,405 15.8 SDP/All
Blackburn	W Churchill	8.1	8,189	11,637 23.0 L/All
Blackpool N	M Micallef	8.5	7,321	9,032 21.0 L/All

These Conservative-held Northern seats would be in danger if there were a swing of 5 per cent or less from Conservatives to Liberal Democrats, posing a threat to Conservative vice chairman Sir Tom Arnold, whip Timothy Kirkhope and Keith Hampson, chief aide to Michael Heseltine.

Seat	Sitting MP	% Swing needed	1987 C majority over Lab	Third place votes and % (all Lab)
Stockton S	T Devlin	0.65	774	18,800 31.3
Colne Valley	G Rickard	1.5	1,577	16,253 29.1
Hazle Grove	Sir T Arnold	1.7	1,840	6,354 11.8

These Conservative seats would fall to a five per cent to ten per cent swing to Liberal Democrats.

Seat	Sitting MP	% Swing needed	1987 C majority over Lab	Third place votes and % (all Lab)
Leeds NW	Crosby	5.05	5,201	11,210 21.7
Pudsey	Crosby	5.1	5,853	11,382 21.9
Leeds NE	Crosby	5.75	6,435	11,681 22.5
Leeds South	Crosby	6.05	6,202	13,259 25.0
Sheffield, Hallam	Crosby	6.9	7,837	11,280 20.4
Conisburgh	Crosby	7.25	7,959	9,810 17.9
Ryedale	Crosby	7.4	9,740	5,940 6.1
Leeds NE	Crosby	8.65	8,419	12,292 23.3
Huddersfield	Crosby	8.95	8,086	8,103 16.0

## Arts get £559m funding package

By SIMON TAIT, ARTS CORRESPONDENT

THE performing arts are to receive £19 million in a £559 million package for 1991-2 to help organisations cope with inflation and deficits. The figure is an increase of more than 13 per cent on this year's budget and more than double the expected increase.

The package includes an increase of 11 per cent on the Arts Council's 1990-1 grant of £175 million. The council will have to decide how much to give companies such as the Royal Opera House and the Royal Shakespeare Company, facing deficits of £4.4 million and £3 million next year.

David Mellor, the arts minister, expects them to get increases of 8-9 per cent. Mr Mellor has created a £22.5 million "enhancement fund" for the next three years to help cancel deficits that total £17 million for subsidised companies. Mr Mellor said, however, that the fund would also be available to clients that were not in financial difficulties. To do otherwise would be unfair to those who have been artistically excellent and able to keep their affairs in good financial order, he said. Clients will have to go to the council with three-year business schemes to show they will not be coming back for more from the fund.

The clients are not making any comment until they know their allocations, but their response is likely to be that it will be fine if annual funding matches inflation. This might be the case this year, but the forecast for arts funding for 1992-3 is for an increase of only 3.6 per cent to £582 million and one of minus 2 per cent to £568 million for 1993-4.

The purchase grants of museums and galleries have been frozen for the sixth year. Instead, Mr Mellor has given the National Heritage Memorial Fund a three-fold increase in its grant to £5.5 million. Since the environment department is also raising its allocation from £1.5 million to £6.5 million, the fund will have £12 million a year for the next three years.

## More hurdles ahead in trade talks, MPs told

By PETER MULLIGAN AND ROBERT MORGAN

QUEEN'S SPEECH

PETER Lilley, the trade secretary, told MPs yesterday that "plenty more hurdles" remained before there could be a successful outcome to the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) talks.

The so-called Uruguay round of the talks, aimed at liberalising world trade and preventing a trade war, appeared to stall when European Community agriculture ministers failed to reach agreement over subsidies. After weeks of argument, agriculture and trade ministers agreed measures to cut subsidies.

The community negotiates as a single block in the GATT talks and can now table its firm proposals. The Uruguay round is due to finish at the end of the year. Speaking in the Queen's speech debate in the Commons yesterday, Mr Lilley expressed relief that EC ministers had reached agreement on Tuesday.

"We have jumped that hurdle but there are plenty more hurdles to jump before we can bring the round to a successful conclusion. Not only our Common Market partners but also our friends in North America, the Cairns group, the newly industrialised countries and the less developed countries will all have to be ready to compromise."

Mr Lilley said that Britain stood to gain most from a successful round "or to lose most if the world sinks back into protectionism, trade wars and beggar-my-neighbour policies." He told MPs that British industry was chalking up impressive achievements even at a time of slack demand. Once the short-term problem of inflation was "licked" the prospects were even better for industry in the 1990s than the 1980s.

Gordon Brown, shadow trade and industry secretary, mocked the Conservative party over the failure of its Blue Rose marketing campaign, set up after the 1987 election to sell goods bearing Tory motifs.

He said that goods were still available at knock-down prices, with "I love Maggie"

T-shirts for £1.95. There were 800 directorships among Conservative backbenchers and 20 ex-ministerial jobs in the nation's boardrooms "and they cannot even run the party equivalent of a bazaar without losing thousands of pounds. The closing-down sale of the Thatcher era has already begun," he said.

Mr Brown criticised the trade minister for failing to say when the government would take action over skill shortages and training, or when he intended to make Britain the technological capital of Europe again and introduce a modern regional policy.

The problems Britain faced were not an accident of fate or problems common to our European competitors, but problems created uniquely in Britain by the government. After 11 years, with high interest rates and high inflation, they were entitled to ask what had gone wrong.

## Bill paves way for toll roads

By BILL FROST

EXISTING roads could link up with a new private network of routes planned by the government under legislation for the new parliamentary session, Cecil Parkinson, transport secretary, said yesterday.

The new roads and street-works bill, published yesterday as the first of a four-part programme for transport announced in the Queen's speech. The measures will enable private developers to build and operate toll roads without having to go through the lengthy process of getting an individual private bill.

Mr Parkinson said that, if link roads to proposed routes were public, it might be necessary to link them in with the private system.

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## More councils playing party politics

By DOUGLAS BROOM, LOCAL GOVERNMENT CORRESPONDENT

COUNCILLORS throughout Britain are increasingly putting party loyalty above the interests of their constituents, according to a new survey, which found that almost three-quarters of councils were dominated by party politics.

A study of 407 local authorities in England, Wales and Scotland, commissioned by the Joseph Rowntree Foundation, found that most important decisions were taken in private political group sessions at which councillors were told how they should vote at public council and committee meetings.

So formalised had the position become that in half of all councils the chief executive officer now attended meetings of the ruling political group to advise on policy. The result was that meetings

attended by the public were rendered virtually meaningless because the outcome of every debate had already been decided behind closed doors.

The report, by Professor Ken Young, of London University, and Mary Davies, of the Institute of Local Government Studies at Birmingham University, found that councillors were also taking a bigger part in appointing middle-ranking council officers, especially in the big cities.

"Partisan conduct is rapidly becoming commonplace with members of both major parties increasingly bound by group decisions and with more consistently partisan voting in both council and committee meetings," the report said. While Labour councils remained more politically partisan than those under Tory control, figures showed that Conservatives were rapidly catching up. The study was undertaken to examine

changes in local government since the publication of the Widdicombe report in 1986 on the conduct of municipal business. The researchers found that in the intervening four years party discipline in councils had grown tighter. Councillors were required to toe the party line in more than 80 per cent of votes taken at council meetings in urban areas. In rural areas, half of all votes were the subject of the local government equivalent of a parliamentary three-line whip.

The report concluded that while councillors were now more likely to wear a party badge and follow the party line, the style adopted by each local party was tailored to local circumstances.

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# Bonn pledges help without cash in pact with Moscow

FROM MARY DEJEVSKY AND IAN MURRAY IN BONN

GERMANY intends to represent Soviet interests inside the European Community and other leading Western international institutions, Helmut Kohl, the chancellor, promised President Gorbachev in Bonn last night, after the two had signed four treaties binding their countries together in what both said was a new spirit of trust.

The chancellor's pledge was made in a speech where he claimed: "German-Soviet relations have a new, forward-looking quality, extending far into the next century." While offering no hard cash to help in the difficult transition to a free market economy, he promised the Soviet leader advice, good will and experience "on the basis of our firm anchorage in the European Community and our significant role in economic summits and in international economic and financial in-

stitutions". Germany, he said, wanted "to stand up for your country's interests there too".

For his part, Mr Gorbachev emphasised the deep roots of Russian-German friendship. "Germany and the Soviet Union are no longer potential military adversaries. Indeed, in Europe as a whole they have no conceivable enemies."

The four treaties include a non-aggression pact, an agreement to co-operate in trade, industry, science and technology, and the timetable and financial arrangements for the withdrawal of Soviet troops from eastern Germany. Herr Kohl said signing them closed "a sorrowful chapter in our past... opening the door to wide-ranging co-operation and thus leading a new quality to our relationship."

Mr Gorbachev almost echoed those words. "Our bilateral relations have truly taken on another character,"

he said. "What is just as important is that, in the sense of European union where the Soviet-German factor applies, they have a great role to play."

The treaty-signing ceremony took place on the anniversary of the fall of the Berlin Wall and Herr Kohl paid high tribute to Mr Gorbachev's role in making this and the subsequent unification of Germany possible. "The fact that you are the first foreign head of state to visit our united country augments our esteem," he said.

Mr Gorbachev said that the new quality of trust in international relations was the main reason why "the Soviet Union had not only refused to obstruct the acceleration of German unification, but had taken upon itself significant responsibility for determining its external aspects."

The one sore point in their mutual relations, he said, concerned the Soviet troops remaining in eastern Germany. He appealed to the chancellor to ensure that their treatment would prove a touchstone for keeping relations between the two peoples on "a humane and friendly basis". He hoped that the hints of anti-Soviet feeling that had appeared among some Germans in past years would be only temporary.

Herr Kohl said: "We want to do everything possible to ensure that the Soviet soldiers and their families feel at ease during the rest of their stay here. We want them to have good memories of our country and to return home to secure conditions."

Given Herr Kohl's promises of help without money, the Soviet leader also seemed unhappy with current economic co-operation. He called on Germans to show more "boldness, breadth of vision, forward thinking and willingness to take risks". He insisted that they were dealing with a great country with rich human and intellectual potential.

"Great changes are taking place in our country," he said, "but the new Soviet Union will remain a superpower, with vast potential and a sure future into the 21st century." He pledged that the Soviet Union would solve its problems. "But we will solve them faster and better if we co-operate with other countries."

The chancellor understood this point. "No country can single-handedly cope with the great tasks of the future," he said. "Even bilateral co-operation is not sufficient. Instead it is crucial to find comprehensive solutions."

Mr Gorbachev is now likely to meet Mrs Thatcher before the end of the year to sign an Anglo-Soviet friendship accord. Whitehall sources said it was certain there would be such an accord, but it had not yet been decided whether it would be a legally binding treaty or less formal.

The accord was proposed by Moscow and London has gone along with it without enthusiasm. A draft submitted by Moscow is seen as unobjectionable. Its content is less substantial than that of the pact reached with Germany.

## East pins its hope to German mark

FROM IAN MURRAY IN BONN

KONRAD Adenauer's desk in the Gobel Room of the graceful Palais Schaumburg here is becoming the work surface for redesigning Eastern Europe. President Gorbachev yesterday used it to sign the four "good neighbour" treaties which commit the Soviet Union and Germany to close co-operation in areas from economics to culture.

Walter Romberg, the finance minister of what was East Germany, last May signed away his country's economic sovereignty at the desk, paving the way for unity with West Germany. Early next year it is likely to be used for the signing of another "good neighbour" treaty, this time with Poland, which will establish wide and binding commitments between the two countries.

Helmut Kohl, the German chancellor, made clear when he visited the Polish border this week that he does not mean Germany's commitment to helping to establish secure democracy in Eastern Europe to end there. He said he saw no reason for any nation to be a special case. All needed the same kind of support.

In the near future both the Romanian and Czechoslovak leaders will be in Bonn pleading for the sort of assistance which President Gorbachev now receives and which will shortly also go to Poland. The Hungarians are already negotiating.

All of which will cost Germany a good deal of money. The treaty to ensure that Soviet troops withdraw from eastern Germany will alone cost DM13 billion (£4.4 billion). The process of making Poland forgive if not forget the second world war has already meant that Germany has had to write off DM760 million of an outstanding debt and put up export credits of DM2.5

billion. The cost of bringing eastern Germany up to western Germany's standards is, according to the opposition Social Democrats, about DM41 million a day.

Apart from what the expense may do to ensure peace and pave the way for the kind of European federalism Herr Kohl says he would like to see, Germany hopes the money will be a good investment. As when the economy in the East starts to take off, it will mean that German companies are ideally poised to take advantage of the goodwill generated.

Herr Kohl is also concerned, however, to ensure that a collapsing economy in Eastern countries does not provoke counter-revolution and another flood of migrants to the West. Since reunification Germany has become the frontline state with the old Soviet bloc, where poverty is the chief threat to democracy.

The chancellor said this week that he hoped the Poles would by Christmas be allowed to cross the border without a visa, although this will depend on agreement with France and the Benelux countries, who now have an open border with Germany. It is a risky policy.

If Poles are allowed in, this will inevitably increase their desire for rapid prosperity, just as happened when East Germans were allowed freely into West Germany and could see at first hand the pleasures of a consumer society.

Poland's problems cannot be solved by a German takeover, and Herr Kohl argues that only by leading the way for substantial Western help to Warsaw can Germany ensure stability in the East. He is also anxious to improve living standards in the old Soviet bloc in order to stop the mass migration from there of ethnic Germans.



Hand of friendship: Marianne von Weizsäcker, wife of the German president, holding on to Raisa Gorbacheva outside the presidential residence in Bonn yesterday after the Soviet leader and his wife arrived for a two-day visit

## Slow justice for last victim shot at Wall

FROM ANNE McELVOY IN BERLIN

CHRIS Geoffroy was 20 when he died in the night of February 5 last year. He was a handsome, daring young man trying to escape from East Germany because, as he told a friend the day he fled, he wanted "a little lifestyle at last".

His dream was to open his own restaurant in the West. He would, he told the friend who tried to flee with him, telephone his mother from the Kurfürstendamm the next day and say: "Hey, mum, you'll never guess where I am."

He never got that far. In the no-man's-land between the two Berlins he was shot repeatedly in the chest and died in the lap of his friend, who escaped with injuries.

Chris Geoffroy was the last of 192 East Germans to be killed trying to escape the country in the 28-year history of the guarded border. A small cross, flowers and the words "Victim of the Honecker dictatorship" mark the place where he fell.

As Berlin celebrates the fall of the Wall a year ago Karin Geoffroy, his mother, is still struggling to bring her son's killers to justice. She now lives in west Berlin.

Fran Geoffroy has opened a private proceeding against Erich Honecker, who ordered border troops to shoot to protect themselves and the fortified border.

Her lawyer, Lothar Franz, is gently pessimistic. "The situation is extremely complicated," he says. "Under federal German law we have to prove a chain of events from Honecker's order to the shooting of Chris Geoffroy. I think we will get perhaps halfway, so the border guards will be tried but not those who gave the orders, which would be a second injustice."

The file on Chris Geoffroy's death was transferred from the office of the military public prosecutor in east Berlin to the legal authorities in the west. Four border guards who were

present on the night of the shooting have already declared themselves willing to help in the investigations, but no progress has yet been made.

Fran Geoffroy's face is lined with stress. "I came to terms with Chris's death but not with this hesitancy, these eternal delays. When the regime fell I thought 'Now there will be justice for Chris and for the others', but it is just the same. People in this part of Germany want to pursue their own lives, wipe out the past."

The Berlin authorities defend their slow progress with reference to the "mountains of files" of former leading East German functionaries that must be examined. The files on Herr Honecker fill an entire room and, although

investigations are under way into charges of corruption, aiding terrorism and his responsibility for deaths, no trial date is in sight.

"The people who died on the border have simply fallen behind in the list of priorities," said Herr Franz. "There seems to be a resistance to examining the past, a desire to sweep things under the carpet."

Herr Honecker insists he had lifted the shoot-to-kill order. Guards who served on the border last year say they were still being ordered to shoot in defence. The file on the Geoffroy shooting admits he had turned to face the guards with his hands up in surrender. "They appear to have shot in cold blood," Herr Franz said.



Freedom's playground: two boys walk the top of the Berlin Wall on the first anniversary of its fall, while a man chisels off a piece of it for a souvenir

## Food mountains of EC threaten world markets

FROM MICHAEL BINYON IN BRUSSELS

EUROPE's horn of plenty is now disgorging so much food on to world markets that glut of alpine proportions are again stockpiling in granaries and cold stores.

Soaring new food mountains and spiralling storage costs are threatening the world's food markets, just as fears are growing that trade negotiators will fail to cut farm subsidies and introduce a fairer, cheaper system of agricultural exports.

A pessimistic forecast by the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development finds mounting stocks of unsold food of almost every temperate farm product. It predicts a sudden rise of up to 10 per cent in the cost of storage; foresees a regenerated farm sector in Eastern Europe unloading vast new quantities of food on the market; and issues a warning that unless the developed world takes urgent measures to curb export subsidies, rich countries will go on producing more and more food, making it increasingly harder for poor nations to sell their produce.

The belated offer by the European Community of a 30 per cent cut in price subsidies has been widely denounced as inadequate by other food-producing nations. They say the final offer, agreed at a seventh meeting of farm ministers, was worse than predicted and will make it almost impossible to finish the Uruguay Round of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade on time next month.

Neil Blewett, the Australian trade minister, said: "If the Gatt round collapses, the European Community will be responsible." John Crosbie, the Canadian trade minister, said: "The European Community just about caused complete breakdown in the four-year process of the Uruguay Round. They have done serious damage by making this offer now."

The community's own surpluses are growing alarmingly. Beef stocks stand at 420,000 tonnes, three times last year's figure, and another 100,000 tonnes will be taken in shortly. The butter mountain, which only a year ago had all but melted, now weighs 187,000 tonnes and farmers hold a further 191,000 tonnes, and skimmed milk powder stocks rose from 5,000 tonnes in January to 333,000 tonnes at the end of September.

Too many cows and other livestock are still being raised, partly because Brussels rashly increased the milk quota by 1 per cent in January. Europeans are also eating less meat because of dietary changes and health scares. The community has suddenly lost its market in the Middle East after the Gulf confrontation started and in the Soviet Union economic difficulties have cut imports. There has been a reduction in world prices, so that the cost of export subsidies and production aids have risen. Farmers have been reluctant to take land out of production, despite a series of incentives.

The compensatory measures agreed on Tuesday as a way of cushioning Europe's farmers against proposed subsidy cuts will prolong high prices and guaranteed markets. Brussels is unwilling to introduce reform of the Common Agricultural Policy until the Gatt talks are completed.

All this comes as farm support is rising throughout the world, in efforts to make up for falling prices. Overproduction looks set to continue, and the OECD estimates an annual 10 per cent rise in stocks of dairy produce destined for export in the next five years, an increase of up to

900,000 tonnes in the surplus of bovine meat, and a doubling of the sugar surplus to three million tonnes.

The irony is that the surpluses will not help the Soviet Union, where shortages are threatening a bleak winter, the starving in Ethiopia and Sudan, or the developing countries which have no money to import food. By flooding the market with subsidised food exports, the rich farming exporters make it impossible for poor and middle-ranking countries to compete and earn valuable hard currency.

These countries are especially critical of the EC's farm offer. "There seems to be complete paralysis. In virtually no area do we see progress being made," declared Reinaldo Figueredo, Planchart, the Venezuelan foreign minister, who spoke in Geneva on behalf of 15 developing nations.

## Cossiga called as Gladiator witness

FROM RICHARD BASSETT IN ROME

FOR the first time in the history of Italy, its head of state has been called as a witness in a criminal investigation. The summoning of President Cossiga is likely to cause a constitutional uproar, overshadowing his wish to run for a second term.

Signor Cossiga was formally summoned yesterday by Felice Casson, a Venetian judge, to give evidence concerning violations of Italy's constitution resulting from "Gladiator", a clandestine Nato operation that started in the 1950s and had a secret army numbering about 6,000 people to "fight communism". Reports from the northeastern province of Friuli-Venezia Giulia claim it had hidden arms supplies all along its frontier with Yugoslavia during that time.

Gladiator may have become Italy's greatest scandal since the second world war. Its relationship with terrorist acts in the 1970s and early 1980s is not clear, but it has been linked to several threads of political sabotage. Acts that remain shrouded in mystery include the 1978 murder of Aldo Moro, the former prime minister, and the 1980 bombing of Bologna railway station.

Giulio Andreotti, the prime minister, tried to play down the operation, which he defended as a "legitimate child of Nato born during the years of the Cold War", when he addressed the Italian parliament on Thursday night.

"The organisation was inspired by partisan warfare experience and based on the hypothesis that Italy faced the threat, along with other European countries, of a communist invasion," Signor Andreotti said. He denied it had breached Italian law.

However, Achille Occhetto, the leader of the Communist party, Italy's largest opposition group, called for Signor Andreotti's resignation and demanded more details of Gladiator's activities against communists within Italy.

A presidential spokesman said the summons contained "procedural anomalies" and implied that the government would have to decide whether its head of state could be questioned by a judge.

## SEE ELIZABETH TAYLOR AT 2½ STONE.



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OSLO NOTEBOOK by Tony Samstag

## Santa and reindeer shatter Nordic peace

THE Christmas season comes early to these latitudes, and with it a fresh outbreak of hostilities in the long-running War of Father Christmas. This year's opening salvoes were fired, in fact, around the Ides of March when the Nordic Council, meeting in the Icelandic capital of Reykjavik actually entertained a debate by Norwegian, Finnish, Icelandic and Greenland delegates, with the Swedes sulking offstage, as to whose homeland was the real abode of Julemessen, as he is known in the Scandinavian languages. The issue was left hanging until July, when the 27th world congress of Father Christmas in Copenhagen took it up. There were 70 of them, from 10 countries, tucking into traditional Danish Christmas dinner. Tempers rose quickly in the summer heat and a Greenland challenged a Finn to a duel with dogwhip. An uneasy ceasefire had prevailed since; but now the Greenlanders have discovered the global warming trend, which clinches the argument as far as they are concerned, by threatening to change the winter wonderlands to the south.

There is a serious side to the debate, of course. Rovaniemi, in Finnish Lapland, one of the better

known of the many homes of Father Christmas, played host to no fewer than 22 charter flights last year, and the Father Christmas industry in Finland is reckoned to be worth at least £10 million annually. Father Christmas tours are especially popular with Japanese honeymooners, who find the combination of exotic scenery, sauna and long hours of winter darkness wildly romantic.

One Norwegian contender for the title of Father Christmas's headquarters is "Christmas Valley" near the west coast town of Sandness. A few years ago this Norwegian establishment suffered a severe setback when Laika the reindeer died of a surfeit of Christmas cake and gingerbreadmen. Laika's owners knew full well that most reindeers, which include reindeer, cannot digest flour, which ferments in the gut and eventually poisons the animal. But one especially busy day, the herds of adoring young children, their pockets bulging with sweet Christmas goodies, got the better of the keepers and Laika joined the ghosts of reindeer past.

Meanwhile, the indigenous people of Nordic Lapland, a race so peaceful that their language has no word for "war", have been for much of this year at

the centre of a multi-ethnic brawl inspired by reindeer, and described by observers above the Arctic Circle as "Wild West on the tundra".

Vidda means a vast expanse of empty land, normally a mountain plateau, and the Lapps — or Sami, as

Union. Never the most hospitable of environments, Finnmarksvidda has been severely damaged in recent years by a combination of air pollution and overgrazing, to the point where the pacific Sami are now fighting each other for survival. Reindeer are starving because large areas of reindeer moss, a kind of lichen on which they normally feed during the winter, have vanished.

Recent satellite photographs show a huge "black belt" of devastation through central Finnmarksvidda. Slaughterhouses report that many of the reindeer delivered are so undernourished they are unfit for human consumption and have to be used as animal feed or fertilizer.

Some flocks lost 60 per cent of their animals last winter, six times the normal rate of attrition. The food shortage has led to fighting not only among Norwegian Sami but also with their Finnish cousins as the Norwegians try to strangle their animals across the border where pasture is less damaged. On the Norwegian side, there is now a new phenomenon — reindeer rustling. Earlier this year, the police were holding more than 10,000 animals while the ownership was resolved.

Diary, page 12



## Democracy

Kathmandu — Yesterday's presidential election was a landmark in the history of Nepal, stripping him of his power. "This election clearly guaranteed freedom and human rights," the king said in a three-minute speech from Royal Palace. (AP)

## Post pillage

Gatumba, Rwanda — Yesterday's presidential election was a landmark in the history of Rwanda, stripping him of his power. "This election clearly guaranteed freedom and human rights," the king said in a three-minute speech from Royal Palace. (AP)

## New ruler

Maseru — Prince Mshahane, aged 27, installed as Lesotho's next Monday in place of his father, King Moshoeshoe II, who died last year. (AP)

## Nurses stril

Tokyo — About 100 nurses joined a nation-wide strike today, claiming that their pay was too low and that they were overworked. (AP)

## Killer snake

Jakarta — A 20ft long snake, found in a rice field, was reported to have killed a man. The snake was found by a local farmer and was reported to have killed a man. (AP)

# Past rituals usher in an emperor for the 21st century

FROM JOANNA PITMAN IN TOKYO

MOTOBUKI Higashizono counts himself lucky to have been intimately acquainted with two emperors of Japan. Companion since the age of three to the late Emperor Hirohito, he is now friend and mentor to Hirohito's son, Akihito, aged 56, who succeeded to the Chrysanthemum Throne in January 1989.

As the palace's chief ritualist, Mr Higashizono will direct operations at Monday's enthronement ceremony. And at the Daijosi — the great food offering ceremony — on November 22, it will be his job to summon the gods of Japan and then kneel on guard while Emperor Akihito communes alone with Amaterasu Omikami, the sun goddess and legendary mother of Japan.

"The Emperor has not rehearsed his role very much. He will share some sake with the gods and then lie down in the dark with Amaterasu. I am rather afraid that he'll go and knock something over," he said with a twinkle in his eye.

Mr Higashizono, a spry gentleman in his seventies who was born into a high-ranking aristocratic family from Sendai in northern Japan, is a well-connected figure at court. He is married to Princess Sawa (granddaughter of the late Emperor Meiji, who reigned from 1867 to 1912) and is one of the most senior officers of the powerful imperial household agency, or Kunaicho, the rotund, well-to-do guardian of Japan's imperial family.

The primary function of this august body, as impenetrable as the palace itself, is to maintain the opaque veil of mystique that surrounds the throne. It also administers an imperial etiquette so arcane that its origins are

lost in the mists of early history.

While Mr Higashizono remains characteristically silent on his own background, he is surprisingly effusive about his friend and protégé, the emperor. "His day-to-day lifestyle has changed very little from that of the Emperor Showa. He still, for example, has all his food checked by poison tasters. I remember during the years of rationing after the war, he used to get very upset at always having to give up part of his meal to the poison taster," he said.

All his life Emperor Akihito has been carefully protected. As a boy he travelled everywhere in a special Mercedes-Benz, an armoured vehicle with windows three inches thick. "It weighed four tons and all wooden bridges had to be tested before the car could cross them," recalled Mr Higashizono.

Today the emperor is driven around in a custom-built bullet-proof limousine, but this year for the first time he was allowed to travel in an ordinary car. "He made a special request to go in a Nissan on a trip to Hokkaido. The police were furious but we decided to allow it, just this once." Even this has caused complications. In order to maintain harmony between Japan's three giant car manufacturers, the palace garage now houses a Honda and a Toyota as well as the Nissan.

When Emperor Akihito is on view to the people, he is kept on a tight leash by his ministers at the Kunaicho. His behaviour is strictly controlled — the display of emotion or informality is forbidden, smiles and waves are rationed and the rare words he utters in public must be pre-rehearsed.

According to Mr Higashizono, the emperor greatly envies the ability of Britain's royal family to tour among the people, express opinions publicly, go shopping and even handle money — activities all forbidden to him.

After a trip to Britain in 1953 to attend Queen Elizabeth's coronation, the 19-year-old Crown Prince Akihito returned full of new ideas. "He picked up all sorts of habits from the British," recalled Mr Higashizono. "That's where, for example, he learned to wear his shoes inside the palace apartments. We've explained to him that this is not hygienic, but he is adamant."

And again having carefully noted the set-up at Buckingham Palace, Akihito has rejected the traditional Japanese futon in favour of Western beds and had a shower installed in the imperial boudoir.

But in his efforts to keep up with the Windsors, Emperor Akihito may have to reconsider his new arrangements. According to Mr Higashizono, the Duke of Edinburgh, on a recent trip to Japan, requested a futon rather than a bed; and Princess Anne insisted on using a Japanese bath while in Tokyo earlier this year.

Since ascending the throne, Emperor Akihito has let it be known that he wanted to be in closer contact with the people, along the lines of the British monarchy. He has a long way to go. As yet he is still forbidden to drive his own car, let alone fight alongside his countrymen as Prince Andrew did during the Falklands conflict.

His most daring request to date has been for his limousine to be allowed to stop at red traffic lights, like ordinary cars. "The first time we allowed him to do this, half the procession got cut off and he was ten minutes



Chrysanthemum sovereigns: the late Emperor Hirohito and the 14-year-old Crown Prince Akihito, who will be enthroned on Monday, watching an athletics meeting in April 1947 with members of the imperial household

late for a ceremony at Ueno," recalled Mr Higashizono, who was obviously unamused at the fiasco. This should not happen again. Rumour has it that Emperor Akihito's chauffeur now has a high-tech gadget that can change a traffic light from red to green at the flick of a switch.

While the emperor's early trip to Britain gave him an appetite for freedom, it did little for his academic career.

"The emperor did not complete his course at Gakushuin University where he was studying political science and economics," said Mr Higashizono. "I think he had too much fun abroad just at the beginning of his studies," he added with a chuckle.

But his years at university were not wasted. They gave him what no other emperor of Japan has ever had: friends. These days he is

allowed to invite his classmates to the palace for an occasional game of tennis. And when they feel like a game of polo, they only have to step on to the emperor's own indoor polo pitch, inside the palace grounds.

Emperor Akihito's other hobby, said Mr Higashizono, is cooking. The palace kitchens are abundantly staffed by specialist chefs — among others, there is one who does nothing but make

sushi, one who only pickles plums and one who specialises in broiling eels. But there is no resident Chinese chef. The emperor, who likes Chinese cuisine, has learnt how to prepare it himself. He is the first Japanese emperor to be allowed to cook his own food. But, of course, the Kunaicho insists that this, too, must be sampled by poison-tasters before gracing the imperial palate.

## Tokyo 'in dolphin killings cover-up'

FROM JOE JOSEPH IN TOKYO

CONFLICTING reports on how nearly 600 dolphins met their death on a remote Japanese beach have fed speculation that the government here may be helping to cover up events which it fears will infuriate wildlife protection groups.

The government, contradicting initial Japanese press reports that the killings last weekend were orchestrated by local fishermen and that the dolphins were clubbed and slaughtered for their meat, now says it is sure that it was a case of mass suicide. Indeed, the fishermen were trying to help the dolphins back into the sea at the island of Fukue, in the East China Sea, off Nagasaki.

Yesterday, a government spokesman said that a post-mortem examination on four of the dolphins found parasites in their ears, which may have confused their sense of direction.

The British press, which reported the affair prominently, has been accused of "Japan-bashing" and of inventing that the dolphins were deliberately driven on to the beach. However, the British reports were based on dispatches from the Nagasaki office of Kyodo, the national Japanese news agency.

Japan is anxious to prevent a replay of an incident that brought it worldwide condemnation in 1978, when fishermen on Iki island, close to last Saturday's beaching, slaughtered about 1,800 dolphins to protect their fishing grounds. The government is now spearheading a campaign to deny and discredit the grim initial dispatches about last weekend's events.

## Marchers call for Lukanov to resign

Sofia — Thousands of Bulgarians marched through the capital last night demanding the resignation of Andrei Lukanov's beleaguered six-week-old Socialist administration. The protest followed yesterday's split by 17 Socialist deputies to form their own grouping within the party, removing Mr Lukanov's guaranteed majority in parliament (Tim Judah writes).

Boris Dimovski said after announcing the break by himself and 16 MP colleagues: "We will support the Socialists when our ideas synchronise with theirs, and we can vote for the UDF (the opposition Union of Democratic Forces) if we support them."

The breakaway came on the eve of celebrations by the renamed Communist party to mark the first anniversary of the fall of the hardline dictator, Todor Zhivkov.

**Democracy vow**  
Kathmandu — King Birendra yesterday proclaimed a new constitution for Nepal restoring multiparty democracy and stripping him of his absolute power. "This constitution has clearly guaranteed personal freedom and human rights," the king said in a broadcast three-minute speech at the Royal Palace. (Reuters)

**Post pillaged**  
Gatumba, Rwanda — Rwandan Patriotic Front rebels pillaged the strategic Gatumba post on the Ugandan border before it was recaptured by Rwandan government troops. The attack appeared to be part of a new strategy of sabotage raids. The rebels ransacked the customs offices and set fire to eight food-laden lorries. (AFP)

**New ruler**  
Masera — Prince Sessie Mohato, aged 27, will be installed as Lesotho's king next Monday in place of the deposed King Moshoeshoe II, his exiled father, Major-General Justin Lekhanya, the military ruler since seizing power in 1986. (Reuters)

**Nurses strike**  
Tokyo — About 100,000 nurses joined a nationwide 24-hour protest strike against the long hours and overwork that they claim jeopardise their babies during pregnancy and cause many to leave the profession. (AP)

**Killer snake**  
Jakarta — A 20R python killed an Indonesian woman and, finding her indigestible, ate her baby, aged five months, the *Kompas* daily reported. Villagers in Sumatra told the paper that the woman was found by her husband, crushed to death and with bite-marks running from ankle to waist. Her baby was missing. Acting on the advice of a local mystic, villagers found the snake, with the child's body inside. (Reuters)

## Sweet revenge of Delhi 'wrecker'

FROM CHRISTOPHER THOMAS IN DELHI

CHANDRA Shekhar has spent 11 months preoccupied with topping the outgoing prime minister, Vishwanath Prasad Singh, who outwitted him for the job in a last-minute backroom deal with party stalwarts last December. His determination to undermine Mr Singh has been a personal crusade, and it will be sweet revenge when he is sworn in as India's eighth prime minister today. He has been described as a "wrecker" because of his hostile political tactics, which at times have been bizarre. In April a national magazine emblazoned its front cover with his claim: "They have tapped all my



Chandra Shekhar greets Delhi colleagues yesterday

phones. Not just that, they have bugged even the rooms."

The Indian press in the 1960s labelled him the angry young Turk of politics because of his first-hand socialism. After moving to the Congress party from a socialist party in the mid-1960s, he became Indira Gandhi's strongman in the Rajya Sabha (upper house). He built a reputation on his strident demands for rapid social change to help the downtrodden. He sided with Mrs Gandhi when Congress split in 1969 and supported her in the nationalisation of banks and the abolition of privy purses.

But the close relationship eventually collapsed. On the eve of the emergency in 1975, he criticised Mrs Gandhi and went to prison until 1977, when he fought in the March elections and won a seat in the Lok Sabha (lower house). He eventually became president of the old Janata Party, which was subsumed in 1988 into the present Janata Dal.

Mr Chandra Shekhar, aged 63, married with two sons, has always refused a government post, but has a reputation for good organisation. Soon after Mr Singh was propelled into the prime ministership, he established himself as a fierce critic, declaring: "I can never accept him as my leader." He says that every crisis encountered by the Singh government could have been avoided or sorted out.

they were "willing and able" to patch together a government. Finally, after Mr Gandhi said he was not willing to form a government and the others said they were not able to, Mr Chandra Shekhar was summoned to the presidential palace, and received the offer that two weeks ago had seemed inconceivable.

The president told him that he must face a confidence vote in parliament on November 20 to prove that he can command a majority. There will have to be some horse-trading with small parties and independents to ensure he succeeds. His grouping is so small that most of his team will have to be offered a government post. The outgoing government had 18 cabinet members, 15 ministers of state and five deputy ministers.

The Congress (I) party of Mr Gandhi will not be part of the government, meaning that it will be able to distance itself from Mr Chandra Shekhar whenever it seems politically expedient. It will now be in Mr Gandhi's gift to decide the timing of the next election, simply by withdrawing support from Mr Chandra Shekhar's administration. An election in February or March is distinctly possible.

Leader's mission to stall election

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT IN DELHI

CHANDRA Shekhar, leader of a small political faction formed a few days ago, will be sworn in today as prime minister of a vulnerable minority Indian government created with the sole objective of stalling the next general election for perhaps three or four months.

His rise to power is a bizarre and temporary end to a period of acute political uncertainty in which Rajiv Gandhi refused to take over the reins of a nation torn by religious and caste violence, fearing that to do so would damage his chances of outright electoral victory. Mr Gandhi will throw the support of his Congress (I) party, which has just under 200 MPs, behind Mr Chandra Shekhar's Janata Dal (Socialist) grouping, which claims the support of 50-odd MPs — about 10 per cent of the membership of the Lok Sabha (lower house).

President Venkatarman went through a precise ritual to find a prime minister, first approaching Mr Gandhi as the leader of the biggest party. Then he went to the headline Hindu organisation, the Bharatiya Janata Party, which has 86 MPs. After that it was the turn of the communists, who have 55 MPs, to be asked if

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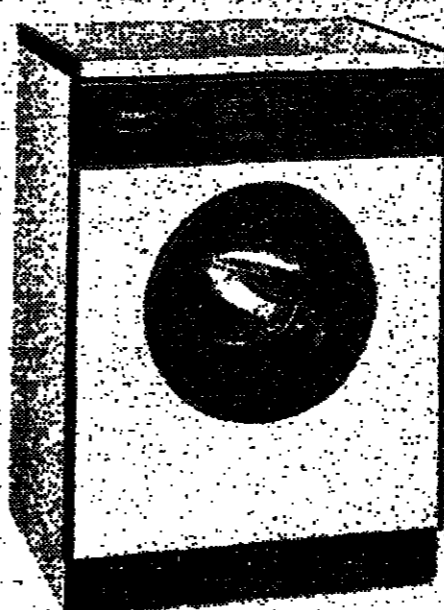
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OPENING HOURS Most Comet stores open from 10.00am to 6.00pm. Some Comet stores open from 10.00am to 7.00pm. Comet stores in the Midlands and South East open from 10.00am to 7.00pm. Comet stores in the North East open from 10.00am to 6.00pm. Comet stores in the South West open from 10.00am to 6.00pm. Comet stores in the West open from 10.00am to 6.00pm. Comet stores in the East open from 10.00am to 6.00pm. Comet stores in the South East open from 10.00am to 6.00pm. Comet stores in the North East open from 10.00am to 6.00pm. Comet stores in the South West open from 10.00am to 6.00pm. Comet stores in the West open from 10.00am to 6.00pm. Comet stores in the East open from 10.00am to 6.00pm. Comet stores in the South East open from 10.00am to 6.00pm. Comet stores in the North East open from 10.00am to 6.00pm. Comet stores in the South West open from 10.00am to 6.00pm. Comet stores in the West open from 10.00am to 6.00pm. Comet stores in the East open from 10.00am to 6.00pm. 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10 MIDDLE EAST

THE TIMES SATURDAY NOVEMBER 10 1990

# Iraqis claim French sent Cheysson to free hostages

FROM PHILIP JACOBSON IN PARIS

AN OFFICIAL newspaper in Baghdad, in a deliberate and damaging attack on the French government's credibility, reported yesterday that Paris sent a special envoy to negotiate last week's liberation of some 300 French people from Iraq. The state-run *al-Jumhuriya* claimed that Claude Cheysson, a former foreign minister under President Mitterrand, negotiated the hostages' release at a meeting with Tariq Aziz, the Iraqi foreign minister.

The timing of the report could not be more embarrassing for France, coinciding with the talks of James Baker, the American Secretary of State, with President Mitterrand in Paris about the Gulf and French strategy in the event of war breaking out. *The Iraqis*, in naming Roland Dumas, the French foreign minister, as having authorised M Cheysson's mission, are clearly seeking to exacerbate the divisions that already exist between the two governments over future policy on the Gulf.

In a report from Baghdad, the Associated Press quoted Arab diplomatic sources as saying the two men had met in Tunis. The same sources indicated that the Palestine Liberation Organisation had paved the way for the talks, not long before the French nationals were set free. It is known that M Cheysson was in Tunis on French government business last

August, when he met PLO officials to explain France's position on the Gulf.

Only this week, reacting to persistent rumours that M Cheysson had been involved in securing a hostages deal, M Dumas denied that anyone had been given a mandate to negotiate with the Iraqi regime. French government spokesmen have also insisted that the liberation of the hostages was a purely "unilateral" decision by Baghdad that had involved France in neither negotiation nor concession.

For his part, M Cheysson — a veteran diplomat whose services were enlisted for a previous Gulf mission — has consistently refused to confirm or deny that he held discussions with Mr Aziz shortly before the hostages were put on a plane back to France. In an interview last Wednesday, M Cheysson, notable for his careful ambiguity, pointed out: "I meet whom I choose... besides, if I did meet Mr Aziz, I fail to see what harm there would have been."

Meanwhile, with public support for the involvement of French troops in a Gulf war declining sharply in a new opinion poll, the government has made clear the limits of its support for present American strategy. In an apparent signal to the Bush administration, M Dumas has given a warning that France remains firmly opposed to any "unilateral action against Iraq" that has not been sanctioned by the United Nations Security Council.

That message, delivered before the National Assembly on Thursday, will be underlined in the talks between President Mitterrand and Mr Baker. Observers here believe that France is intent on imposing stringent conditions before agreeing to support American efforts to get a security council resolution that clears the way for an attack on Iraqi forces.

According to some reports, the French are opposed to any such resolution being put forward until later this month, in order to allow President Saddam Hussein one last opportunity to pull out of Kuwait.

To judge by yesterday's poll in *Le Figaro*, the public is fast losing its taste for French military involvement if the shooting starts. While a narrow majority still feels a Gulf war is inevitable, there was a seven-point increase, to 52 per cent, in the number of those now opposed to any participation by their own troops.

Support for French "solidarity" with the objectives of the US and Britain has declined by roughly the same percentage, since an identical poll was taken two months ago.

## Tehran firm on islands handover

Nicosia — Iran said yesterday it feared war would break out in the Gulf and repeated demands that Iraq withdraw completely from Kuwait (Reuters reports).

President Rafsanjani suggested Iran, which fought an eight-year war with Iraq, might resist any handover of Kuwaiti islands to Baghdad. "At the time of the war, whenever there was talk of a possible handing over of Bubiyan island to Iraq, we informed Kuwait that if it did so we would occupy the island and that it would not be able to take it back from us," said Mr Rafsanjani, quoted by Iran, the Iranian news agency.

According to a Soviet media report, President Saddam Hussein, the Iraqi leader, told Yevgeni Primakov, the Soviet peace envoy, he might be willing to leave most of Kuwait if allowed to keep a disputed oilfield and Bubiyan and Warbah islands at the head of the Gulf. Iraq denied the report and Hojatoleslam Rafsanjani to worshippers at prayer in Tehran yesterday that Iraq must withdraw unconditionally from Kuwait.

## Debate refused

New York — The steering committee of United Nations General Assembly threw out an attempt by Iraq yesterday to get the assembly to debate America's military build-up in the Gulf. After hearing objections to the Iraqi move by 10 speakers, the 29-member committee approved without a vote a motion by Canada to take no action on Baghdad's request. (Reuters)

## Minesweep alert

Arabian Gulf — Britain's three minesweepers in the Gulf, the *Atherstone*, the *Hurworth* and the *Cattistock*, have begun searching for mines following a request from the US Navy, naval sources said yesterday. The US Navy sparked an alert in August after reporting an Iraqi ship "behaving suspiciously". There was no confirmation then that mines had been laid. (Reuters)



Clinically clean: Lieutenant-Commander John Mitchell, a US Navy surgeon who volunteered for laundry duty at a field hospital in Saudi Arabia, bringing in the washing



Flying visit: Douglas Hurd, James Baker, the US Secretary of State, and Margaret Thatcher meeting at Downing Street yesterday for talks on the Gulf confrontation. Mr Baker, who flew in from Moscow, was not optimistic the Iraqis would quit Kuwait peacefully

## US troop build-up sends ultimatum to Baghdad

FROM MARTIN FLETCHER IN WASHINGTON AND CHRISTOPHER WALKER IN DHAHRAN

THE announcement by Washington that it is ordering between 150,000 and 200,000 more United States servicemen to the Gulf has effectively given Iraq an ultimatum. President Bush has clearly warned President Saddam Hussein that there will be an allied offensive to drive his troops from Kuwait in late January or February unless they are withdrawn.

Mr Bush's message was underscored yesterday when Richard Cheney, his defence secretary, indicated that the new deployment meant that plans for rotating troops in the Gulf had been abandoned.

The new deployment, which also involves aircraft, warships and hundreds more tanks, is needed to transform the present 230,000-strong US military presence from a defensive to an offensive force capable of taking on the 430,000 Iraqi troops now entrenched in or near Kuwait. Mr Cheney said the deployment would be completed some time after January 1, but the new troops would require a week or so for acclimatisation and preparation.

"November 17 was until recently the most popular bet for an attack, because it will be a moonless night. But people are now looking more towards early next year," a military source in Saudi Arabia said.

Mr Bush still wants to give sanctions time to work, and President Mubarak of Egypt this week called for a delay of at least

two or three months. America, however, cannot wait much beyond late February. The hot weather returns in March and another important consideration is the morale of the troops, many of whom have already been stuck in the harsh Saudi desert for three months, who made it plain when James Baker, the Secretary of State, visited them this week that they wanted to do their job and go home. March is also Ramadan, the Islamic holy month.

Commenting on details of the new deployment, Professor Fred Halliday of the London School of Economics, said yesterday: "Bush has probably given Saddam until the new year to get out of Kuwait. So he has said there is a timetable, and if you have not, we are going to go for you."

"The Americans have made very clear by these recent deployments and by a number of other leaks that when they go for Saddam they are not going to go for him just in Kuwait, they are going to go for a 100 per cent attack on the command centres in Iraq itself."

As in all public debates about war, an element of disinformation must be allowed for. There are even those in Egypt convinced that Mr Bush's Thanksgiving trip to the Saudi desert in two weeks' time is a clever blind to lull the Iraqis into complacency.

The immediate task now is to secure the United Nations resolu-

tion authorising the use of force for which Mr Baker has been preparing the ground during his current tour of Arab and European capitals. This must be done before the end of the month, when American hands over the UN Security Council presidency to Yemen, one of the few countries sympathetic to Iraq.

The new deployment will halve American strength in Germany and nearly double the size of US forces in the Gulf, giving Washington as many troops there as it maintained in Europe at the height of the Cold War. Total US strength will be roughly 400,000, not including 100,000 allied and Arab forces. At the peak, 543,000 servicemen were deployed in Vietnam.

The 1st and 3rd Armoured Divisions, a brigade-sized unit of the 2nd Armoured Division and the 2nd Armoured Cavalry Regiment, are being sent from Germany, along with the latest helicopters and roughly 400 state-of-the-art M1A1 tanks equipped for chemical warfare. The 1st Mechanised Infantry Division is being sent from America, and the number of US tanks in Saudi Arabia will increase from 800 to nearly 2,000.

The US Navy is sending three more aircraft-carrier battle groups. The marines are sending the 2nd Marine Expeditionary Force and the 5,000-strong 5th Marine Expeditionary Brigade from the United States.

## Saddam interview for ITN

By MELINDA WITSTOCK MEDIA CORRESPONDENT

PRESIDENT Saddam Hussein of Iraq has granted an exclusive interview to Independent Television News, the first by British television since the invasion of Kuwait.

Trevor MacDonald, the ITN newsreader, was last night in a presidential guest house in Baghdad awaiting the call to see the president. ITN hopes to broadcast the interview tomorrow, although it has not yet confirmed the date or time. "People have waited for long and short periods in the guest house," said Stuart Purvis, the editor of *News at Ten*.

ITN has been promised by Iraq that there will be no restrictions on subjects or the precise questions. Trevor MacDonald will be able to ask the president. Mr Purvis said he could not disclose how long the interview would be or whether it would go out unedited.

## Hospitals in Greece on alert over Gulf

FROM CHRIS ELIOT IN ATHENS

MILITARY hospitals in main Greek cities and on the island of Crete have been placed on alert to deal with possible casualties in the event of a war in the Gulf.

Sources say they include the biggest military hospital in Athens and other hospitals in Larissa in central Greece, Thessaloniki in the north and the University hospital at Iraklion on the island of Crete.

"We have received verbal instructions to prepare the hospital for any eventuality," said Lefteris Apostolakis, chairman of the Cretan hospital. At the same time the government instructed other medical centres and clinics on Crete to "set into motion" secret deployment plans in offering their services in cases of emergency, such as surgery.

The alert was revealed a day after Constantinos Mitsotakis, the prime minister, and leaders of the two socialist and communist main opposition parties declared that a war in the Gulf was becoming more likely.

The same sources said two US military bases at Gournia and Souda on the northwestern part of Crete have been stocked with pharmaceuticals and medical equipment, while American army units trained to deal with chemical warfare conditions have been transferred to the strategic Mediterranean island ready to move into the Gulf if needed.

Since the August 2 invasion of Kuwait by Iraq, the two navy and air force bases have been used as stopovers and anchorage points in the build-up of American military forces in the Gulf, as well as by naval units of other countries participating in the multinational blockade of Iraq.

## Brandt returns with 177 captives

FROM ASSOCIATED PRESS IN BAGHDAD

A GERMAN Airbus carrying 177 Western hostages, mostly Germans but including 14 Britons, left for Frankfurt yesterday. President Saddam Hussein ordered the release of the hostages on Wednesday after talks with Willy Brandt, the former chancellor of West Germany.

Those leaving included about 120 Germans, 17 Italians and three Americans. Two Americans were held back and Iraqi officials told the US embassy that their papers were not in order. It was unclear if they would be allowed to leave later.

The list also included citizens of Denmark, Sweden, Switzerland, Finland, The Netherlands, Portugal, Canada, Australia and France. But Richard Ellerkmann, the German ambassador, said that the list could not be immediately confirmed. "We have so many people; there is confusion all around, but the list shows that there are at least 177 people."

Herr Brandt said that he had discussed with President Saddam efforts to achieve a durable and solid settlement for the problems of the Middle East.

Many Western officials have criticised efforts by former leaders — including Edward Heath, the former British prime minister, Yasuhiro Nakasone, of Japan and Herr Brandt — to free hostages, claiming that they help divide the alliance against Iraq. But governments, including the French, have denied any deals were struck in exchange for the release of the hostages. The former leading politicians have maintained they were acting on purely humanitarian principles.

The three Americans who were released had been held at strategic sites in Iraq's so-called "human shield" effort to deter possible attack. They were taken to the Mansour Melia Hotel, used by the government to process hostages. Witnesses inside the hotel identified the three as Don Swank, his wife Brenda, and Miles Hoffman.

Mr Hoffman was working in Kuwait with a private company at the time of the invasion of Kuwait on August 2. On September 5, he was shot in the arm. The Iraqis say he was shot accidentally, but the firing reportedly occurred as the Iraqis were conducting a house-to-house search for foreigners.

There have been reports that gangrene had developed in the wound, and the US embassy placed him on its list of release requests twice before.

Diplomats said Mr Swank was working as a construction engineer at Kuwait University at the time of the invasion.

On Thursday night, after a second meeting with President Saddam, Herr Brandt told Baghdad television that he would report the outcome of his meeting to European leaders.

He said that he was pleased to meet the president and he listened to his views. "I got the impression that the August 12 initiative has not received enough attention, especially in Europe," Herr Brandt said, referring to President Saddam's proposal linking a solution of the Gulf conflict to an Israeli withdrawal from the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip, which have been the focus of the Palestinian uprising.

## Civilian 'task force' plan after Kaifu fiasco

FROM JOE JOSEPH IN TOKYO

JAPAN'S hopes of sending troops abroad again for the first time in 45 years finally died yesterday, as the government cut its losses and formally withdrew its plan to include soldiers in its proposed peacekeeping corps in the Gulf.

The plan had antagonised opposition parties, displeased voters and upset Japan's Asian neighbours. Its withdrawal has ended a dismal chapter for the ruling Liberal Democrats and their struggle to find a way to meet America's call for Japan to show its face in the world.

For fear of further humiliating Mr Kaifu, the government did not put its bill to a vote yesterday in the lower house, despite its large majority there. But, desperate to show Washington that Tokyo is not trying to shirk its responsibilities, Mr Kaifu immediately started talking to opposition parties in the centre about forming a thousand-strong, civilians-only task force, modelled on one in Sweden, to meet Japan's obligations without controversy.

The bill will, however, take some time to prepare and may not be submitted to parliament until early February. When asked if legislation would be ready in time for Japan to help with men in the Gulf, Misoji Sakamoto, chief cabinet secretary, told reporters: "Only God knows. We want to submit this as soon as possible, but this time we will make sure it is solid."

But the Socialists, who control the upper house, made it clear yesterday that they were not interested in joining other opposition parties in agreeing a new bill with the government. The arguing promises to make drafting a compromise plan a protracted affair, further undermining Mr Kaifu's damaged reputation for being a man who gets things done in parliament.

## King Fahd is nudged into cautious steps towards democracy

UNDER mounting internal and international pressure, King Fahd of Saudi Arabia has announced that the desert kingdom will make a cautious step towards greater democracy with the creation of a consultative assembly appointed by the monarch.

A similar promise was made in the early 1960s and some years later an ornate building to house the assembly was constructed in Riyadh. But to date nothing has been done to widen the decision-making process and the building remains empty.

Yesterday's Saudi newspapers — already displaying a measure of glasnost since the start of the Gulf conflict — said in banner headlines that the king was soon to publish the final form in which the new council will function. King Fahd told Saudi editors that he was now studying final recommendations for the council. "We will announce its final implementation as soon as the final draft is completed," he pledged.

Answering questions from the emboldened editors, the king was more specific than in the past

about the setting up of the *Majlis al-Shura*, a body still far removed from Western-style parliaments. The final drafting of its terms of reference, the monarch said, would be undertaken "by honest men of great responsibility and absolute dependability who will be called upon to carry out the task."

The demand for greater participation comes mainly from technocrats, often Western-educated, impatient with an autocratic system of government that leaves so much in the hands of the 5,000 or so leading members of the royal family. Recent moves towards democracy in Eastern Europe and in some parts of the Arab world, notably Jordan, Algeria and Yemen, have increased pressure from below.

Western sources have argued for some weeks that any move towards democracy in Saudi Arabia, however small, would help President Bush if he is to get popular backing for a costly shooting war in the Gulf from the American public. "The flood of Western journalists reporting back on every aspect of Saudi life was bound to

The Gulf confrontation is acting as a catalyst for social changes in the oil-rich Saudi kingdom. Christopher Walker reports from Dhahran on the country's mood

have its repercussions," one source said. "I see this as one result of it. In the past, Saudi promises on this topic have been cosmetic — but this seems more genuine."

Although the idea derives its inspiration from an injunction of the Koran — "in your affairs, consult among yourselves" — there has long been deep-rooted opposition to such an assembly by religious conservatives. During the heady days of the oil boom, public feeling on the issue was temporarily overtaken by the country's headlong march towards modernisation and social and material progress.

Commenting on past postponement in setting up the council, the Saudi Arabian analyst, Nadav Safran, wrote: "The fact that various Saudi leaders have found

it necessary to make those promises (of greater democracy) shows the extent of their awareness of an unsatisfied demand that needs to be appeased."

Pressure for political liberalisation increased by Iraq's invasion of Kuwait and its drastic consequences for the region have been matched by demands for social change in the Saudi kingdom. This was done most dramatically by a group of veiled women who defied local tradition and drove their own cars in Riyadh last week. Some of the women have argued the illogicality of an Islamic custom which would make them dependent on foreign chauffeurs in the event of war breaking out and their husbands being away at the front.

Saudi Arabia has a vast army of 300,000 foreign chauffeurs, one of

whose tasks is to drive around Saudi women.

Legal and religious experts have ruled that the Riyadh women who drove in a convoy of about 40 cars did not violate civil or moral laws. The experts were called in by the governor of the capital and their verdict was seen as a moral victory for the women, who were warned not to repeat their action.

The demonstration, the first of its kind, has virtually eclipsed the Gulf as a topic of conversation and led to rumours that similar small protests were being planned in other cities. At least some members of the royal family are believed to be in favour of lifting the ban and there are predictions that it will disappear within the next 12 months.

As with other aspects of Saudi life, the Gulf confrontation has proved a catalyst because of the familiarity of the formerly unimaginable sight of uniformed American women soldiers driving military vehicles as part of their work in for Operation Desert Shield.

Other issues over which ques-

**task force**  
**task force**

*Purely for the benefit of your health.*

# Bridging the Jewish divide

Clifford Longley

Jonathan Sacks has long been admired by the few who know him as a source of fresh and different thinking in Anglo-Jewry, an unexpected push in the opposite direction to the way things are generally moving. Far from this putting them off, the United Hebrew Congregations, to which the majority of practising Jews in Britain belong, have elected him to be their next Chief Rabbi, in succession to Lord Jakobovits when he retires next year. Before that election, the BBC already had him in mind for the 1990 Reith Lectures, and he begins them next Wednesday on Radio 4.

The lectures will come as a surprise to those who have not yet encountered this educated and sophisticated mind. For generations, prominent rabbis in Britain tend to seem slightly foreign in accent and style, with personal perspectives to match. If over 60, they bear the stigmata of the Holocaust, in mind or body, or both. Their presence in Britain has been a unique grace to the entire culture, not just to their own, but they are growing old. The leadership of Britain's 300,000 Jews has now to return to the homespun of former years, and Dr Sacks, 42 and London-born, is there to prove it. He is very Jewish, but could not be more British.

He is in the tradition of Jewish intellectuals of the middle ground, which does not mean unexciting. But if the centre of gravity of British Jewry has shifted in the last few decades, its extremes have been moving asunder and are now almost as far apart as it is possible to imagine. The rise of ultra-orthodoxy and the retreat into strict observance and separation has coincided with the extreme of "assimilation" represented by a virtual mass defection from Jewish ranks. These responses to the modern, secular world are so contradictory as to suggest a split in the Jewish personality.

Dr Sacks, on the other hand, stands for the possibility of reconciliation, for again making whole the two halves. He has assimilated to the degree that he has absorbed most of what the modern world has to offer (not excluding a double first from Cambridge), yet he also sees the protection of Jewish custom and tradition and the advancement of its culture as the higher priority. He is, above all, a philosopher, which not only gives him a love of precision in meaning but also a rare depth to his understanding of religion. And it is the philosophical credentials of Judaism that are most in need of attention, the rediscovery of an intellectually honest ground for belief in God.

The perceived lack of it has driven many a young Jew to abandon the faith and practice of his parents, and even inside the synagogues there are some Jews who dare not examine their own doubts. Jewishness has been reduced, more often than some care

...and moreover

## MATTHEW PARRIS

Democracy among Tory MPs, as Julian Critchley has explained, is the system under which the common will is least likely to emerge. Events of the past week prove it.

Half the Tory backbenchers you talk to subject you to a private harangue about how much nicer it would be if Mrs Thatcher could be surgically removed and somebody cuddly put in her place quickly, before the next election.

"But would you vote that way?" one asks.

"On the second ballot, yes," they reply.

"What about the first ballot?"

"Ah."

Ah. We could summarise the problem as the first/ballot dilemma. How to get from the first ballot without passing through a first ballot on the way. The crocodile has been goaded into the shallow water, but who is to stick in the knife? The first lunge might not kill, she might make it back into the deep water: her teeth are sharp and her memory is long. Legs could subsequently be bitten. So they all stand gingerly by the edge of the pool, muttering about "loyalty" as the sharp-toothed one thrashes around on the mud bank.

It was not always thus. As Mr Critchley - again - explains, before the advent of democracy in the Tory party, the leader was not voted for, but born. Grey men in grey suits were the midwives at this birth. Word got around that the lady was restless; the lady was privately consulted in the Commons Smoking Room; the object of their predominant affection was told of his new job; and the existing leader was asked which title took his fancy for the Lords.

Now it has all changed. Now you have to put your head above the parapet before the gunfire has stopped, and that's a very unfair thing to ask a Tory MP to do.

But here I part company with Mr Critchley. He, I think, would like to go back to the old system, but nostalgia is pointless. There is no way we can revert. Whatever its democratic credentials may in practice be, the old way could never be

explained to schoolchildren at GCSE.

Nor is it reasonable to accept the existing system but ask the MPs to be braver. If they were brave they would not be MPs. An MP has been selected, elected and promoted for his circumspection. All his political life he has been punished for any tendency to say things that elements of his audience might not wish to hear. To offer - at so senior a stage in one's greying and considered privy councillor's career - so tempting a reward for the very behaviour for which the voters, constituency associations and government whips have been punishing him since the day he entered Parliament, with a series of horrid little electric shocks, is actually quite cruel and under laboratory conditions has been shown to induce personality disorders in mice.

By contrast, my own proposals go with the Pavlovian grain. I shall start with the more modest. At present it is up to the prospective candidate to decide whether or not to stand. He "lets his name go forward". Why? That attracts unnecessary odium. Why not enter the name of anyone who has been proposed and seconded, regardless of whether he says he wants to run. We know he wants to run. My second proposal goes further. Voting among MPs for the leadership is by secret ballot, and that is as it should be. You vote as you please, see who wins, then let it be discreetly known that this was your choice too. The cloak of anonymity protects the voter. Why, then, deny the candidate that cloak? Why can't Tories stand anonymously for the leadership? I can guess what you are thinking, but you are wrong. In the first ballot, MPs do not need to know whom they are voting for; they only need to know whom they are not voting for. The ballot paper would say "1: Mrs Thatcher; 2: Not Mrs Thatcher; 3: Another Not Mrs Thatcher... etc.". If No 1 did not gain an overall majority there would be a second ballot and numbers 2, 3 etc (who would have been voted for randomly) would be invited to say who they were. If we hadn't guessed already.

Diana Gordon urges the Home Secretary not to follow America's hardline policies

# Drugs: put rescue before repression

William J. Bennett, who resigned this week as director of the American Office of National Drug Control Policy, favoured capital punishment for drug dealers. So do a majority of the members of both houses of Congress. In September, the police chief of Los Angeles, testifying before a Senate committee, suggested that those "who blast some pot on a casual basis" should be "taken out and shot".

We in the United States have embraced a grandiose and one-dimensional approach to illicit drug use. We cast the drug problem solely in moral terms, reject all policy distinctions between types of drugs and users and press other nations to follow our lead. Britain can and should avoid our mistakes and develop a policy that has more hope of minimising the harm to users and society caused by compulsive drug use.

Execution is not, of course the only weapon in the American war on drugs. Congress has given President Bush more than \$10 billion (£5 billion) for 1991 to provide more crime-fighters in the Drug Enforcement Administration and the FBI, larger drug

squads in big-city police departments, and a pitance for treatment and prevention programmes. At the local level we are beefing up police patrols while cutting other services (New York City) and hitting taxpayers with regressive surtaxes to pay for drug enforcement programmes (Kansas City).

Rhetorical weapons are popular, too. Bennett once said: "Should we have drug education programmes or should we have tough policy? If we have the choice of only one, I will take law enforcement policy every time because I know children."

So drug-control efforts in America are both narrow and absolutist, unabashedly repressive. Although unlikely to make even modest progress towards reducing the social and economic costs of drug abuse, they nevertheless foster corruption, erode civil liberties, marginalise the young, the poor and the black, and waste taxpayers' dollars. Imprisoning hundreds of thousands of drug abusers has failed to stem the supply of illegal drugs. But this approach is now so entrenched that it is hard to see how we can correct it.

Britain, too, is relying increas-

ingly on the crime-control approach to drugs, retreating from the medical approach to heroin addiction that was dominant before the 1980s. British policy is sometimes influenced by American wrong-headedness. The inclusion of life sentences in the Controlled Drugs Penalties Act of 1985 mimics American sentencing patterns. On returning from a visit to America earlier this year, David Waddington, the Home Secretary, praised the lengths to which Americans have gone to confiscate the assets of drug dealers, and urged equal zeal in Britain.

But an American-style war on drugs would make the situation worse, depleting resources that could otherwise go toward treatment and prevention or towards altering the conditions of life that make drug-taking and drug-selling a way of life in many poor areas. Indeed it would probably make those neighbourhoods more dangerous, as dealers protected themselves against increasingly violent efforts to stamp them out. And such a war might actually stimulate drug production, for successful drug seizures add to demand and keep profits high.

Professional practice in Britain has not completely capitulated to the American way. On a recent trip to London and Merseyside I found humane and sensible public health strategies with realistic goals for reduction of the harm caused by compulsive drug-taking. Needle-exchange programmes have contributed to keeping the AIDS infection rate low in Merseyside compared with other regions. There, the continuing practice of maintaining some users on heroin has helped them to live productive, settled lives and lowered the incidence of acquisitive crime in the area. But most of all I was impressed by the flexibility of doctors, youth workers and researchers, promising more subtle and varied drug policies than are dreamt of in the American philosophy.

They acknowledged that policy must develop a variety of strategies for different types of drugs and users. Their "harm reduction" approach recognises that not all users are addicts, that not all addicts or recreational users want to stop, and that not all drug use is problematic, either for the user or for society. They are prepared to

# What can the Tories do after so humiliating a collapse?

John Curtice believes the Bradford by-election result shows government fortunes still on a downward track

The results of the Bradford North and Bootle by-elections will do nothing to ease the Tory leadership crisis. They confirm that what little ground the party recovered during the summer has largely been lost. But the results also contain warnings for both opposition parties.

The 22.8 point drop in the Conservative vote in Bradford North enters the record books. Although not quite the largest fall in the Conservative vote in a modern by-election - Sutton and Cheam, Richmond and Greenwich are all bigger (see table) - it is the largest post-war fall in the Conservative vote in a seat successfully defended by Labour. Tory by-election disasters can usually be put down to a strong third-party challenge. Tory voters flock to the Liberal Democrats either because they are the most effective way of registering mid-term protest, or because they offer the chance of getting rid of Labour locally. But in Bradford the Tory vote collapsed despite there never being any prospect of a Liberal Democrat victory.

Thursday, had an unusually strong record to match. But even compared to the 1983 vote, the Tory showing this week still looks very poor: the drop of 17.6 points is almost as great as that in the Mid-Staffordshire disaster last March and the vote was nine points lower even than in the local elections in May.

Bootle was not quite so bad. The Conservatives' share of the vote held steady compared with the previous by-election in the seat in May. More important psychologically, the party retained second place, ahead of the Liberal Democrats. But the result still represented a fall of 11 points below the general election figure. This in a seat where the Tory vote had already fallen substantially in 1983 and 1987 - and even though the Conservative loss last month in the very similar nearby seat of Knowsley South was only six points.

These results suggest two conclusions. Conservative support has fallen back again in the last month. And electorally the party is now back to where it was during last spring's poll-tax fracas. Further evidence comes from the latest BBC poll of polls, which gives the Conservatives 32 per cent - four points down on the end of September and only two points better than last April.

The Liberal Democrats' achievement in coming second in Bradford will enable them to maintain the momentum created by their Eastbourne success. Further, with the Greens now scoring only 1 or 2 per cent in by-elections, the Liberal Democrats' mastery of the centre vote in England is undisputed. But there is still a question mark over the depth of their revival.

In both Eastbourne and Bradford, local factors were working in their favour. The Liberal Democrats have vied for control of Eastbourne council for 20 years, and although in Bradford they only have two councillors, their by-election candidate, David



Threshold of disaster: Tory Joy Atkin campaigning in Bradford

Ward, was one of them. Additionally, his ward is part of the Bradford North constituency, and in securing local election twice he has managed to win a ward that other Liberal Democrat and Alliance candidates have failed to win. He entered the by-election with a local personal vote already established.

In Bootle there was no local strength to build on - and there was no sign of any revival. The Liberal Democrat vote even

stipped back slightly on last May and the party did no better than in Knowsley South in September. Also, the party now faces the task of maintaining its momentum in the two vacant Paisley seats (both being contested on November 29), where the Scottish Nationalists have a far stronger local presence than the Liberal Democrats.

For Labour the results at both Bootle and Bradford North are undoubtedly encouraging - but they also suggest a measure of

Fall in Tory % vote since previous general election		
Dec 72	Sutton & Cheam	26.2
Feb 89	Richmond*	24.0
Feb 87	Greenwich	23.6
Nov 90	Bradford N	22.8
Mar 82	Orpington	21.9
Jul 81	Warrington	21.7
Dec 88	Enfield Forest*	21.4
Jun 82	Middlesbrough W	21.2
Jul 85	Bracon & Radnor	20.5

\*Table includes only constituencies fought by Conservatives, Labour and Liberal Alliance/Liberal Democrats at both by-election and previous general election.  
\*SDP and Liberal Democrat candidates stood at by-election.

caution. The party did well to add three points to its previous by-election vote in Bootle. Labour has now increased its share of the vote in five of the six by-elections to-date this year, which adds up to its most consistent success since 1971. But the nine-point increase in Bradford is well below its 17-point advance in the latest national opinion polls. Labour's share of the vote was just one point higher than at the 1979 general election.

This suggests that the Liberal Democrats have taken votes from Labour as well as the Conservatives. A significant section of Labour's support is still "soft" and could potentially be wooed away if the Liberal Democrats continue to flourish.

These by-election results clearly confirm the depth of Conservative troubles. The party's position is worsening rather than improving, whereas at the same stage in the last parliament, in the autumn of 1986, it was on the road to recovery. And in 1982, the aftermath of the Falklands war was still visible. With the Treasury's forecast on Thursday that economic growth will resume only in the second half of next year, the odds on a spring election are clearly lengthening.

There are of course two important jokers left in the pack. One is the Gulf, the other is the possibility of a leadership change. As Tory MPs contest the message from Bradford and Bootle this weekend, a few more may be persuaded of the need to play the latter card.

The author is senior lecturer in politics at Strathclyde University.

## Greater love hath no man

The charity Refugee Year has received what it terms a "positive response" from Baghdad to a suggestion that nuns and priests of all denominations should replace hostages in Iraq.

Refugee Year - patron, Mother Teresa of Calcutta - has asked members of the clergy to volunteer as replacements for the civilians in the potential war zone. "We are particularly asking missionary priests and nuns with specialist medical skills to come forward," says Danny Lillis, deputy secretary-general of the charity. "Missionaries are trained to go into areas of difficulty. We feel their psyches are better adapted to deal with the strains."

During a visit to Baghdad, Lillis met close aides of Saddam Hussein, including Tasa Yassin Ramadnan, deputy prime minister, and Sa'di Mehdi Saleh, speaker of the National Assembly. "I was told they would give the idea serious consideration," he says. Father Kevin Doherty, secretary-general of Refugee Year, who accompanied Lillis, stayed in Baghdad for further negotiations. Lillis returns to Baghdad on Monday, and he and Father Doherty hope to meet Saddam during the week.

Meanwhile, British clerics are already showing their spiritual mettle as word spreads on the ecclesiastical grapevine. "We have received a number of individual approaches," says Lillis, "though we are unlikely to get 3,500 missionaries, which is roughly the number of people held in Iraq. Priority will be given to volunteers with special skills."

● The versatility of the Scottish mind in concocting euphemisms for excessive drinking is confirmed with the publication of a Scots Thesaurus. The scholarly tome, from Aberdeen University Press, carries 50 alternatives for the word "drunk", including beamfyll, capermotte, chipplit, sneekit, souple, steamin' and tosie.

## Cover blown

The outwardly genteel world of book-selling has been rocked by a racket in book-tokens. Sales assistants have been warned to look out for customers bearing sheaves of stolen, old-style tokens - square, rather than the updated oblongs - which they use to buy large quantities of books in before returning to seek cash refunds. So far two arrests have been made.

Bill Barnes, managing director of Book Tokens, says: "In June we put the surplus stock in sealed bags and sent it to be destroyed. Some obviously was not."

So far £14,000 worth of bogus tokens have been accepted, in shops from Colchester to Gloucester and including London. Fortunately, spotting the criminals is not too difficult. "They stand out from the crowd," says Barnes. Unlike seasoned browsers, they look like extras from the TV series *Minder*. "You could say they are from the scruffy end of the market. They are not likely to read *The Times*."

## Home and away

For the second week running, Sheffield Wednesday will today be without the solid support of its best-known cheerleader, Roy Hattersley, bowed down by pressure of work. He has



## DIARY

become such a fixture that last Saturday the Radio 5 commentator on the match against Oldham Athletic remarked that he could not see Hattersley - whom he described as the local MP - in his usual place. Hattersley, who was listening at home, immediately telephoned the studio with the assurance that he was with Wednesday in the spirit, if not the flesh, adding that he in fact represented a Birmingham constituency. A few minutes later David Blunkett telephoned to say that he too was listening, and that he was the local MP.

Blunkett must have wished he had not bothered. The match commentary ended with the words "We have been asked to point out that the local MP is not Roy Hattersley, it's David Blunkett."

## Palumbo's army

Peter Palumbo's version of a garden gnome is understandably grander than that of other men. The Arts Council chairman has paid £31,000 for a modern sculpture for the grounds of his Berkshire home that consists of 1,100 life-sized steel figures, painted bright red.

Taking up two-and-a-half acres, the sculpture has been an exhibit at the National Garden Festival in Gateshead. Palumbo acquired it by making a sealed bid to organisers seeking new homes for this and more than 60 other giant sculptures that decorated the 200-acre site until the festival ended last month.

The artist, Ray Smith, says his work is an ambiguous piece able to be interpreted as illustrating "historical or political events, joy or celebration, defiance or terror".

## Clamp of ages

The gap left in the Museum of London by the Lord Mayor's coach, wheeled out for its annual outing through the City today, has been filled in a menac-



ingly modern fashion. The museum has acquired a Denver Boot, the wheel-clamp contraption that has probably inflicted more misery on London's inhabitants than anything since the Great Fire, and intends to put it on permanent display in the modern section.

The device, a spokeswoman for the museum explains, may be considered a legitimate part of London history. "It was introduced in 1893 to answer a problem that, going back five centuries, records reveal that in 1479 a petition was presented to the Common Council by residents of Thames Street complaining of the carts blocking the streets of Billingsgate and praying that the nuisance be abated with new regulations."

The museum staff, however, retain their sense of proportion. The clamp is accurately labelled "an instrument of torture".

## Hawke to dove

There's nothing like a threat to one's pocket - or the prospect of filling it - to encourage the burying of hatchets. It is a long time since Bob Hawke, the Australian prime minister, had a kind word to say for Mrs Thatcher. But his reaction to her stand on EC farm subsidies could hardly be bettered by the most fervent Euro-basher on the far right of the Tory party.

In a radio interview this week he said: "I've had my differences with Margaret Thatcher, but it would indeed be childish of me if I didn't acknowledge the very considerable commitment she has shown. She has been first rate..."

Given that Australia has vast amounts of butter and lamb that it cannot sell because EC over-production and dumping is pricing it out of world markets, Hawke is bound to support the Thatcher line. But all who remember how bitterly the two leaders clashed at the 1989 Commonwealth conference over sanctions against South Africa are astonished by the fulsome of his praise.



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## JUSTICE FOR CRIMINALS

Whisper it not in Pinner, but the government's criminal justice bill, published yesterday, is designed to stop judges putting burglars in prison. In future, statutory guidelines will lay down that imprisonment should be imposed only when the offence is "so serious" or the danger of "serious harm" to the public so great, that only prison will do. Moreover, judges are to take far less account of the offender's past record. Locking up the habitual burglar will become far harder. And fines are to be related for the first time to the offender's income, so that the jails will be less crowded with those who will not pay because they cannot.

Since this is a Tory government David Waddington, the home secretary, had of course to pretend otherwise. He described the new policy as "a more coherent legislative framework for sentencing". The tough side of the bill's twin-track approach to sentencing was much to the fore. As promised, the powers of the courts to impose long sentences on violent and sexual offenders are reinforced. Remission is abolished; parole limited. Punishment in the community is to be strengthened with the new penalty of a curfew, enforced by electronic tagging operated by private security guards. Magistrates will be able to impose fines of up to £5,000 and to penalise the parents of offending juveniles. If and when Mr Waddington rises next year again to appease the law-and-order mob at the Conservative party conference, he will have plenty of ammunition.

Yet this is a bill that offers more, on balance, to liberal reformers than to their opponents. No doubt, money played its part in this. To keep a criminal in jail costs £300 a week. This is, in effect, a state subsidy to the burglar to perfect his craft with expert tuition from his fellows.

The government is faced with a policy dilemma. Ridding the prisons of their Dickensian squalor has become imperative. Over the past 15 years, they have become the most riot-prone in the West. Successive surges of violence, which swept through 18 jails on a single night in 1986, have focused attention on

living conditions. This week's report by Judge Tumm on Armley jail in Leeds was the most severe indictment by a prison inspector in modern times.

Imperative too is the need to economise at the Home Office. No responsible government could continue lavish spending on the police, and on jails, without a scrap of evidence that crime is thereby being prevented. The alternatives to the measures in the bill are more violence in prison, more suicides, more human degradation and more expenditure, with no discernible advantage to the wider community.

Parliament, however, has scope to improve on what the home secretary has begun. One set of proposals ought to be rejected. Parents of juveniles may be fined if their youngster's offences can be blamed on them. This is the kind of proposal that makes perfect sense to middle-class ministers who generally leave the taming of adolescence to their children's boarding schools. For, say, the single mother in Brixton, struggling against odds to keep a young person on track, they represent only a threat. Many such parents will be tempted to wash their hands of their responsibilities. Parental influence — the last, best hope of deflecting the youngster from a life of crime — will be removed. The magistrates do not want these powers. Parliament should not force them to have them.

Another provision ought to be added. The guidelines, though an improvement, still give the judges considerable discretion. Much depends on how the appeal court interprets them. All this is hazardous. The transmission mechanism between parliament, home office and the judiciary is creaky and ineffective. Judges are notoriously their own creatures, disinclined through long exercise of power to heed outside influence. Penal reformers, now backed by the Labour party, have long advocated the creation of a sentencing court. Representing all interested parties, its job would be to formulate detailed guidance on sentencing for the courts. Justice demands no less.

## HERE'S TO YOU

Mary Robinson's triumph in the Irish presidential elections marks a watershed in Ireland's political culture. The presidency has little power, but that does not diminish the significance of her win. Hers is a victory of probity against the pork barrel, of individual merit against the cosy intimacy of a political elite which is divided into two major parties founded in a civil war 70 years ago. She has given hope that Ireland is ready for change.

Much of Mrs Robinson's importance lies in the simple fact that she beat an old Fianna Fail warhorse, Brian Lenihan, the favourite until late in the campaign. Dublin's political club, which just about admits women providing they do not aspire to run anything, had not intended Mr Lenihan to come under any serious threat. She was helped by the fact that shortly before the elections, Mr Lenihan was caught telling quite unnecessary lies and his old friend, the prime minister, Charles Haughey, was compelled to drop him from the cabinet to keep his fragile coalition on the road. Even so, Mr Haughey campaigned for him energetically. In choosing Mrs Robinson the voters have made a clear protest against the indulgent attitude to political misdemeanours which has prevailed in the past.

The republic's two leading figures now illustrate the contrast between past and future. Mr Haughey is a veteran exponent of a traditional nationalism, long on rhetorical appeals to "Irish values" and short on specific ways to achieve the unification of north and south. Mrs Robinson, by contrast, breaks almost every rule in Ireland's book. She is a working mother, an ex-member of the tiny Labour party, in favour of contraception and publicly available information on abortion and openly sympathetic to Ulster unionism.

Little wonder that Mr Haughey muttered "dangerous nonsense" on hearing that she favoured an activist presidency. Given the

constitutional constraints on the president, Mrs Robinson's activism will have to be largely intellectual. She has already thrown out dozens of fresh ideas and should continue to do so. Her election suggests that she may be sowing radical thoughts in more fertile ground than has been imagined. Ireland's politics, society and culture have been shot through with the influences of a conservative country-side. A more secular and more pluralist generation in the east of the country has been denied a strong political voice. Now those reforming influences — whose efforts are currently concentrated on liberalising laws on contraception, abortion, homosexuality and divorce — have a spokeswoman at the top. Greater separation of law and church, essential to a modern society, could eventually be on the cards.

At the least, standards in public life should improve. Mrs Robinson is a lawyer of international repute who is unlikely to stay silent if rules are bent. She also enjoys the huge advantage of being associated with neither of the major parties.

Mrs Robinson left the only party with which she had been connected in circumstances which hint at the most profound impact which she might yet make. She resigned from the Labour party over the signing of the Anglo-Irish Agreement because she considered it unfair to the north's one million unionists. This suggests a politician who is serious about understanding unionist fears and who would make the reconciliation of the nationalist and unionist traditions, of which so many Irish politicians talk endlessly, a practical priority. Her position dictates that she must work with people, not with parties and programmes, to change attitudes. In a country where party politicians, in north and south, have been less than triumphantly successful at ridding Ireland of mistrust and hatred, that is all to the good.

## RABBIT DROPPINGS

Last year, Americans were flourishing Paul Kennedy's *The Rise and Fall of the Great Powers* as evidence of their country's imminent decline. Now, it seems, a work of fiction has taken over as the favourite symbol of doom. The last of John Updike's tetralogy of novels about Harry "Rabbit" Angstrom, *Rabbit at Rest*, has been excoriated by critics as too savage a metaphor for America's moral slippage. An editorial in the *New York Times* came to Rabbit's rescue, claiming that these criticisms were "excessive" and said "more about discontent with the American self than they say about the novels".

Current American literary fashion favours the minimalist novel, a day in the life of an East Coast academic or a Greenwich Village artist. But once every few years, a broad-brush novel appears from a famous author — Tom Wolfe's *Bonfire of the Vanities*, the *Rabbit* books — and tends to be taken literally, as if it were a mirror to the woes of society. Mr Updike's mirror reflects a decade, the Eighties, which he deplores: "Everything falling apart, airplanes, bridges, eight years under Reagan of nobody minding the store, making money out of nothing, trusting in God."

Why does America care so much for books as the mirror, straight or distorting, in which its society can be seen? Why does Britain care so little? Americans are more reverential towards their prize-winning authors. When Martin Amis writes about the inevitability of nuclear annihilation few British readers take him seriously. They are perhaps more attuned to irony, to satire. British readers of *Bonfire of the Vanities*, recognising Mr Wolfe's caricature, are surprised when much of his fiction comes true on New York's streets.

Britons, too, tend to rely more on other art forms for their social comment. British cinema is more political than America's. Hollywood finds that fantasy and escapism sell more

tickets. The British also describe their society better on the stage than in novels. John Osborne's *Look Back in Anger*, first seen in 1956, is perhaps the best parallel to *Bonfire* or the *Rabbit* books. Written as an antidote to the genteel, or gentlemanly, style of Terence Rattigan, *Look Back in Anger* opened up the British stage to the raw feelings and frustrations of a new generation. Caryl Churchill's *Serious Money*, tried to send up the Eighties, but the joke backfired. The play proved most successful with the City louts it scorned.

The panoramic social novel used to be more popular in Britain. George Eliot was a household name. Dickens excelled at social comment, and became a hero himself as writer and family man (which is perhaps why he kept his mistress so secret). Yet Dickens's novels were adored at the time not for their digs at Victorian society, but for their rumbustious characters. The Britons love Pickwick just as they love Falstaff, or for that matter Pooh Bear or Billy Bunter, fat clowns all. Asked what 20th-century books sum up their country, Britons are more likely to opt for middle-class childhood nostalgia — *Wind in the Willows*, perhaps, or *Swallows and Amazons* — than Margaret Drabble or Graham Greene.

The British are simply less interested in their national identity than Americans. They are reluctant to define Britishness, and less concerned to map the contours that are shaped on their identity by world events. Americans are almost all immigrants, and want to distinguish what it is that makes them American from the part of them that is German, Irish, Vietnamese or Mexican. Moreover, America is still relatively new, while this country has been around for so long that the British simply feel rather than think British. Perhaps that is why they retreat to whimsy rather than soul-searching for their bedtime reading.

## Seeing Germans as 'one of us'

From Sir Reginald Hibbert

Sir, When you describe Chancellor Kohl's recent negotiating manner as even bordering on the insufferable (your leader today), I wonder what standard of comparison you are applying. Insufferable compared with what? With various French moves over the years? With some of Mrs Thatcher's pronouncements and manoeuvres, as seen by Britain's partners? With some of the unilateral actions taken from time to time by US governments?

Has Chancellor Kohl been doing anything more than indulging in the normal behaviour of national leaders trying to pursue national political imperatives within the constraints of an increasingly interdependent world? It is the relatively recent behaviour of Kohl while Germany was divided which has been subnormal by international standards.

In what was presumably meant to be one of several examples of Kohl's insufferability, you said that he saw Mrs Thatcher off in the spring of 1989 over the modernisation of Lance missiles, which you described as Mrs Thatcher's test of loyalty.

The test might have been reasonable under the old rules of the east-west confrontation; but even those who thought it so in early 1989 ought to be able to appreciate with hindsight that achieving the reunification of Germany and the consequent collapse of the Soviet system in eastern Europe, while keeping Germany in NATO, was bound to eclipse the Lance missile issue. A German could be excused for thinking that it was the loyalty test which was insufferable.

These matters would be much more easily handled if we could all agree at last to regard the Germans as "one of us".

Yours faithfully,  
REGINALD HIBBERT,  
174 Queen Alexandra Mansions,  
Biddborough Street, W.C.1,  
November 6.

From Mr Charles L. Parker

Sir, Over the past ten years only two countries out of the EC 12 are "net contributors" to the Common Market and they are Germany and Britain. Our net contributions for the last three years have been: £1,721 million (1987); £1,362 million (1988); £1,966 million (1989). The contributions since 1979 have been a staggering £11,388 million.

So much for the tough talking of Mrs Thatcher.

Yours faithfully,  
CHARLES L. PARKER,  
2 Windsor Court,  
Market Harborough,  
Leicestershire,  
November 1.

## Ridley on EMU

From Mr P. H. Rollason

Sir, The disadvantage of a single European currency, according to Nicholas Ridley ("Two-speed, with Britain in the lead" November 3) is that those who cannot compete with Germany's productivity will have to cut their wages. He also infers that, should we retain our own currency, we would be able to adjust the exchange rate to keep our industries competitive; presumably by devaluing the pound. In both instances there is a cut in value of the wages received. So what is the difference?

The outstanding advantage of a single currency would be that savages accumulated during a lifetime of work and the pension earned would retain their value, giving an opportunity for the elderly to maintain their standard of living to the end of their lives. This is an opportunity which has not existed whilst successive governments have demonstrated their inability to control inflation and maintain the value of the pound despite having total control of the Bank of England and the exchange rate adjustment.

I would feel more comfortable with an ecu in my pocket assuming, as does Mr Ridley, that its value was controlled by the Bundesbank whose care for the value of the Deutschmark far exceeds that of our own various governments' efforts with the pound.

Yours faithfully,  
P. H. ROLLASON,  
44 Forest Gate, The Common,  
Wokingham, Surrey,  
November 4.

## Hunting on Trust land

From the Executive Director of the League Against Cruel Sports

Sir, Sir Richard Acland (November 6) displays an extraordinary fit of pique in his reaction to the members of the National Trust voting to ban the hunting of deer on Trust land. He claims that in one year stag hunts tracked down and "put out of pain", 57 injured deer — many of which had "gargantuan wounds filled with maggots, their bellies gnawed by rats and their eyes pecked out by jackdaws".

I would remind Sir Richard that it is we "antis" who are supposed to use the emotive language — not the hardened "realists" of the hunting set.

For years stag hunters have been telling us that it is the existence of hunting which prevents poachers and farmers taking pot-shots at the deer. It seems from his 57 injured deer that the hunters' claims have been false. We have also repeatedly been told that the hunters are the conservationists. Now we are being told

## Christian dilemma on 'just war'

From the Secretary General of the General Synod of the Church of England

Sir, The House of Bishops of the Church of England did not at its recent meeting find itself "so far from agreement that no statement [on the Gulf crisis] was possible" (Clifford Longley's article, November 3). The great majority of the House felt simply that no statement was desirable.

They took the view that in such a highly complex situation a statement by them at that time would have added little to what had already been said by the Archbishop of Canterbury in the House of Lords on September 6 and by other church leaders on the issue. But they did endorse a call by the archbishops of Canterbury and York for prayer for peace in the Gulf, a call which many would surely welcome but which seems to have gone largely unnoticed by the bishops' critics.

I hope that your readers and commentators will show some understanding of the bishops' dilemma. On this occasion, they have been criticised by some for their failure to pronounce. On others, they have only to open their collective mouth to attract equal criticism. On both types of occasion the impartial observer might be forgiven for thinking that the criticisms say more about the preoccupations of those who utter them than they do about the shortcomings of the bishops.

Yours faithfully,  
PHILIP MAWER,  
Secretary General,  
The General Synod of the  
Church of England,  
Church House,  
Great Smith Street, SW1,  
November 6.

From the President of the Anglican Pacifist Fellowship

Sir, Instead of "going by the Aquinas book", as Clifford Longley suggests, could we not go back even further, and go by the New Testament book? We should ask ourselves how the "just war" idea arose in the first place.

For its first 300 years' existence the church had to endure the most frightful persecution, with frequent systematic attempts by the Roman state to exterminate it completely. When, at the end of

three long and terrible centuries, the Roman emperor himself, Constantine, became converted to Christianity, the battered church found itself presented with what seemed like a golden opportunity to use the power of the state to extend Christ's kingdom throughout the world.

This was, in fact, the same temptation which came to Christ himself in the wilderness, when the devil took him to a very high mountain, and showed him all the kingdoms of the world. Jesus resisted the temptation totally. The church, when its turn came to be similarly tempted, however, was totally unable to resist. Since then, it has never again been able to take the way of the Cross seriously.

Soon after this temptation, when the church became fully aware of the total contradiction between the exercise of worldly power through the state and commitment to the spiritual power of Christ's love, it found itself in a terrible dilemma.

In an attempt to escape from this dilemma, first Augustine sought to adapt the pagan idea of "iustum bellum" to a Christian application, and the theory of a just war was born. Centuries later, when the church had long come to terms with worldly necessities imposed as a result of collaboration with the state, Aquinas set out to elaborate the theory in exact detail.

Despite this attempt to wriggle out of the dilemma caused by trying to reconcile worldly power with the power of love, the church has always been uneasily aware of the contradiction between war and the way of Christ, as witness, for example, the frequently repeated resolution of successive Lambeth conferences since 1930: "War, as a method of settling international disputes, is incompatible with the teaching and example of our Lord Jesus Christ."

Even more to the point was the 1978 Lambeth resolution that "the use of violence is ultimately contradictory to the Gospel".

Yours faithfully,  
GORDON WILSON, President,  
Anglican Pacifist Fellowship,  
4 Byron Close,  
Hampton, Middlesex,  
November 4.

## Patience in the Gulf

From Professor Sir Harry Hinsley, FBA

Sir, Despite repeating his sensible warning that to go to war with Iraq without UN blessing would be deeply divisive, Sir Michael Howard now advises (article, November 5) that "on balance Bush must go to war".

He makes two assertions in support of his case: the policy of economic sanctions has not been thought through, and within a year the blockade will be leaking like a sieve. The fact is that the policy has never been tested when applied, as now, universally; and there is no compelling reason for concluding now that it will not succeed. Nothing will be lost if we give it more time.

The huge cost of moving forces to the Gulf has already been incurred. It will be hardly more expensive to keep them there than to have them training at home or in Europe; and considerably more realistic.

There is no shortage of oil and no threat of a shortage. On the other hand, the strain on Iraq will be enormous, and it cannot be more than marginally reduced by attempts to breach the blockade. Such attempts will be made, and

efforts will continue to negotiate a compromise retreat from the UN's resolutions. It can do no harm to start listing and numbering them as they are detected.

But since the credibility of the Security Council is the most serious potential casualty of the crisis for everybody in the long run, the attempts may well die out if it is made plain that some states are determined to uphold it without resorting to force unless they are attacked.

Yours sincerely,  
F. H. HINSLEY,  
St John's College, Cambridge,  
November 5.

From Miss Barbara G. Oakley

Sir, With the news that Mr Bush's patience is wearing thin (report, November 1) one can but hope his advisers know and have pointed out to him the old bedouin proverb quoted by Bruce Chatwin in his book, *The Songlines*: "I against my brother, I and my brother against our cousin, I, my brother and our cousin against the neighbours. All of us against the foreigner."

Yours faithfully,  
BARBARA G. OAKLEY,  
The Little Priory, Kington,  
Hitchin, Hertfordshire,  
November 1.

## Hostages' wives

From Mr Robert G. Matley

Sir, How unfortunate it is that Sir John Stokes seeks to lecture British wives on their concern for their hostage husbands in Iraq (report, November 6). No comparison with events half a century ago is relevant; opposing forces were not exposing their activities to the camera and live broadcast.

The Iraqi situation constantly reminds families of their separation and prompts them to try to do something to help secure freedom as they realise that Sir John and his party compatriots, with the exception of Mr Heath — prefer people to remain silent.

Yours sincerely,  
ROBERT G. MATLEY,  
10 High Street, Great Wilbraham,  
Cambridge.

From Mr Edward Hay

Sir, Of course, Sir John Stokes is correct. Since 1980, I have spent a month each year in the Middle East and frequently discussed the political situation with British expatriates. All whether in Jordan or Kuwait or Saudi Arabia, have been aware of the risks they run by living and working in the Middle East but ready to accept them because of the pay.

It is no coincidence that it is not they but some of their misguided wives who are providing such good propaganda for Saddam Hussein.

Yours sincerely,  
EDWARD HAY  
(Director),  
Park Timber (London) Limited,  
49 Albermarle Street,  
Mayfair, W.1,  
November 5.

From Mr Anthony Collinson

Sir, I consider that the role of the National Trust is the preservation of our heritage. It should not have to waste its valuable resources on debates about hunting (report, November 5) which should be left to those bodies involved, whether for or against, and ultimately to the Government to legislate. Members of the National Trust should not use the Trust to ride their hobby horses thus alienating a good many members and boring the rest.

The constitution of the National Trust should be amended, by statute if necessary, in order that these tedious matters are not brought up annually to the detriment of proper business fundamental to the Trust.

The Trust would be unwise to ignore the wishes of any donors in the past; otherwise it may prejudice gifts of important properties in the future.

Yours faithfully,  
ANTHONY COLLINSON,  
The Coach House,  
Capernwray,  
Carnforth, Lancashire,  
November 5.

## Separate library for patents?

From Mr S. G. Rayment

Sir, Let us not dwell on the problems of the past of the new British Library at St Pancras (report, October 31), but try to deal constructively with the problems of its future.

It is a sad fact that the new library will be overcrowded almost from the outset. To resolve this problem in part, it would seem sensible to keep apart distinctive bodies of literature, especially those which lend themselves to specialist exploitation.

Patents form a distinct area of literature. Much of the non-patent material currently held at the Science Reference and Information Service Library at Southampton Buildings will move to St Pancras. This will leave space available to house what is the world's largest collection of over 30 million patents within one building on which the Victorians conveniently placed the words "Patent Office".

The same building might also house the London branch of the Patent Office, thereby combining the body of patent literature with some of the specialists who use it daily. The rest of us would beat a hasty path to that door.

It would be desirable to keep a small collection of supporting literature relevant to legal, technical and commercial matters of patents, trade marks, copyright and designs alongside the patent collection, though not of the size or diversity of the present SRIS library.

We have an opportunity to exploit patent literature more efficiently than recent years have allowed. Let us seize this opportunity to aid British industry and the growing shelves of the new British Library.

Yours faithfully,  
S. G. RAYMENT,  
Kingsley & Talboys  
(Patent investigators)  
5 Stone Buildings,  
Lincoln's Inn, W.C.2,  
November 1.

## Somerset style

From Mr E. G. Hebditch

Sir, In your October 27 issue you print a photograph of a "canter" driving a "putt" (a high, two-wheeled tip-up cart) and one horse across a field. I am a farmer's son, now 91, but in my day on a 200-acre farm in Somerset when reins were rope, we always got up on the putt to drive the horse, unless it was a full load. You steer much easier, talk to the horse, go much faster. The reins were shorter and kept out of the mud or water.

One wonders how the 1990 student manages with putting on and taking off the collar or, another old dodge, "drenching" an old shire horse with medicine out of a medium-size whisky bottle and not spilling half of it.

Those were wonderful days for a 10 to 15-year-old, leading the horses everywhere for mangolds, swedes and potatoes, plus the binder and mower. Pay was usually 1d an hour.

Yours sincerely,  
E. G. HEBDITCH,  
The Sycamores,  
Maebury Marsh,  
Nr Oswestry,  
Shropshire.

## Census and poll tax

From the Registrar General for England and Wales

Sir, Dr R. J. Thomas (November 5) alludes to public concern lest information disclosed in census returns could be obtained by local councils to aid their search for poll tax debtors.

I can confirm categorically that any such concern is entirely unwarranted. By law no personal information from census returns may be passed to community charge registration officers, or anyone else outside the Office of Population Censuses and Surveys and the General Register Office for Scotland. Census publicity will stress the stringency with which the law will be applied.

Yours faithfully,  
F. J. WORMALD,  
Registrar General for  
England and Wales,  
Office of Population  
Censuses and Surveys,  
St Catherine's House,  
10 Kingsway, W.C.2,  
November 5.

From Dr Robert Bruce-Chwatt

Sir, You report (November 7) that poll tax defaulters may lose the vote. May I say that if I were offered £395 (Richmond's poll tax) not to vote I would be delighted to accept it. Could this be the New Deal?

Yours faithfully,  
ROBERT BRUCE-CHWATT,  
York House,  
Richmond, Surrey,  
November 8.

## Pricey parking

From Mr A. Osmond-Evans

Sir, Some of the Kensington and Chelsea parking meters require 12 times 20p coins for the permitted maximum two-hour parking. Who goes around with 12 times 20p coins in their pockets? On one recent occasion, by the time I had collected and inserted all the necessary coins, the first 20p had already expired.

Yours faithfully,  
ANTHONY OSMOND-EVANS,  
76 Charlwood Street, SW1,  
November 6.



## COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE  
November 9: His Excellency Professor George Kirya was received in audience by The Queen and presented the Letters of Recall of his predecessor and his own Letters of Commission as High Commissioner for Uganda in London.

His Excellency was accompanied by the following members of the High Commission: Mr William Nagaga (Minister Counsellor), Mr Fred Gabunga (Second Secretary), Mrs Samalie Musisi-Mwanje (Second Secretary), Mr Isaac Biruma-Sebulime (Second Secretary), Miss Margaret Kedisi (Third Secretary) and Mrs Harriet Oduku (Attache). Mrs Kirya was received by Her Majesty.

Sir Patrick Wright (Permanent Under-Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs) was present and the Household in Waiting were in attendance.

Mr Mordecai Richler (winner of the Commonwealth Writers Prize) was received by The Queen. Mrs Richler was also received by Her Majesty.

Mr Inoke Faletau (Director of the Commonwealth Foundation) was present.

The Duke of Edinburgh this morning unveiled a bust of Admiral of the Fleet Lord Fraser of North Cape, in HM Naval Base, Portsmouth.

Lieutenant-Commander Malcolm Sillars, RN was in attendance.

His Royal Highness, Honorary Member of the International Council for Bird Preservation, this evening attended a reception in support of the Rare Bird Club, at Windsor Castle.

BUCKINGHAM PALACE  
November 9: The Princess Royal today visited Devon (the Earl of Morley).

Her Royal Highness attended a seminar on Educational Development in the Third World at the college of St Mark and St John Foundation, Plymouth.

Afterwards The Princess Royal, Patron SENSE, the national Deaf-Blind and Rubella Association, visited SENSE South West, Newton Abbot.

Later Her Royal Highness, Patron, the Butler Trust, visited HM Prison, Channings Wood, Denbury.

This evening The Princess Royal, Chief Commandant, Women's Royal Naval Service, attended a WRNS Officers' Dinner at HMS COLLINGWOOD, Fareham.

CLARENCE HOUSE  
November 9: Lieutenant-Colonel Malcolm Grant Haworth today had the honour of being received by Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother, Colonel-in-Chief, The King's Regiment on relinquishing his appointment as Commanding Officer of the 1st Battalion.

Lieutenant-Colonel Graeme McDonald had the honour of being received by Her Majesty upon assuming his appointment as Commanding Officer of the 1st Battalion, The King's Regiment.

Lieutenant-Colonel Roger Hislop had the honour of being received by Her Majesty upon assuming his appointment as Commanding Officer of the 1st Battalion, The King's Regiment.

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received by Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother upon relinquishing his appointment as Commanding Officer of the 5th/8th Battalion, The King's Regiment.

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## OBITUARIES

**Kenan Tefig Erim, Turkish archaeologist, has died aged 61. He was born in Istanbul on February 13, 1929.**

ON A hot afternoon in south western Turkey last September a couple of tourists unravelling the marvels of the site of Aphrodisias in Caria stopped to comment on the greatest wonder of all, "How they asked, "has this site been so extensively excavated and yet kept so unspoiled?" They had identified one of the most important of the most exciting archaeological sites in Asia Minor inspired not only his 30 years of excavation but also his untiring efforts to conserve and protect the site. This culminated in the expropriation of the whole site by the Turkish government in 1989, and the triumphal inauguration of the newly restored tetrapylon, which marked the entrance to the shrine of Aphrodite.

Kenan Erim brought to his lifetime's work for Aphrodisias a unique combination of gifts. He was born in Istanbul to a family with a long tradition of service to the Ottoman Empire; but he was brought up in Geneva, where his father was working for the League of Nations. After the war the creation of the United Nations took the family to New York where Erim graduated from New York University in 1953 and then from Princeton with a PhD in classical archaeology in 1958.

His teaching career began at Indiana University, then he returned to New York University to become professor of classics. Trilingual in Turkish, French and English, he perfected his Italian during his work on the Princeton excavations in Sicily, where he was responsible for identifying the site under excavation at ancient Morgantina.

The work of an Italian scholar, Maria Squarciapino, drew his attention to the site of Aphrodisias as having been the source of a tradition of sculpture of unusual quality and quantity in the Roman and early Byzantine period. In 1959 he paid his first visit to the site, about 230 kilometres east of Izmir, which had until then been the subject only of brief excavations; and in 1961 he undertook the first of the 30 seasons of excavation which he conducted there under the aegis of New York University.

As the excavations proceeded, the site rapidly emerged as one of exceptional importance in a large number of areas. The excavations revealed that the habitation of the site went back to the sixth millennium BC, making it one of the earliest settlements in Anatolia. The bulk of the visible remains, however, dates from the Roman and early Byzantine periods, and the excavation of the city has altered many basic assumptions about the history and culture of those periods. The series of buildings uncovered by the excavations all contained unique elements in their design or decoration —



most recently the centre of what was thought to be an agora turned out to be occupied by an enormous pool, currently being cleared.

The abundant inscriptions have produced new information about the politics and administration of the Empire; they have also revealed personal insights, as in the inscribed letter in which Octavian, the future emperor Augustus, states: "Out of all Asia I have taken this one city for myself." The excellent local marble which bore such texts also provided the ma-

terial for the outstanding sculpture which the site has produced. The excavation of the "Salutation", a "profectio" devoted to the cult of the first Roman emperor, produced a series of sculptures illustrating their achievements, including a relief of the Emperor Claudius, triumphing over defeated Bithynia — the only such representation known. A series of startling portrait heads of philosophers from the late 3rd century AD, to be published later this month, provided further evidence, to add to that from the inscriptions, for the survival and prosperity of a pagan community at Aphrodisias well after the official triumph of Christianity.

Erim had a particular affection for that little group of pagans; he appreciated their wish to retain the values of a civilisation which had vanished. He belonged to a cosmopolitan Ottoman world whose values were disappearing; and he had to engage with the modern world in his ceaseless labour to maintain the excavation and, above all, to raise the money for it. He was helped by many generous sponsors, both institutions and private individuals in many countries. For several years the National Geographic Society supported the excavations. He received honours for his achievements which reflected his international life: the Liberty Medal of New York City (1986), the rank of Commander of the Order of Merit of the Republic of Italy (1987) and a certificate of appreciation from the President of Turkey last month.

The initiative, and the responsibility, however, always rested with him; and his premature death must reflect some of the stress which that imposed. Aphrodisias was his whole life, and he sometimes found it hard to tolerate those whom he saw as not sufficiently committed to the great work.

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The initiative, and the responsibility, however, always rested with him; and his premature death must reflect some of the stress which that imposed. Aphrodisias was his whole life, and he sometimes found it hard to tolerate those whom he saw as not sufficiently committed to the great work.

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## MAJOR 'MULE' HOLLEY

Major Holley, the American jazz double-bass player has died in Maplewood, New Jersey, aged 66. He was born in Detroit on July 10, 1924.

KNOWN throughout the jazz world as "Mule", Major Holley acquired his nickname while serving in a navy band during the second world war. The epithet referred to his habit of carrying around two bulky instrument cases, one containing a tuba, the other a double-bass. In the years that followed, "Mule" also seemed a thoroughly appropriate term for a musician who provided steady, uncompromising support for many a group.

Originally a violinist and tuba player, Holley learned to play the double-bass during his navy service. His fellow musicians included the trumpeter Clark Terry, who can claim the credit for inventing Holley's nickname. During the post-war years, Holley moved to the centre of new developments in jazz, living in a hotel on 52nd Street in New York and playing with new bebop leaders including Charlie Parker. He made his recording debut in 1950 with Oscar Peterson.

There then followed a five-year spell in Britain. Holley came to this country as a backing musician for the

singer-pianist Rose Murphy. Finding London to his taste, he decided to stay, in spite of the Musicians' Union's hostility towards visiting American players. During this time he demonstrated his versatility in recordings with special sessions including Humphrey Lytton. After returning to the United States he continued to freelance, playing with Woody Herman, Duke Ellington and the group co-led by Zoot Sims and Al Cohn.

For a while Holley also worked with the guitarist Kenny Burrell. The album *Midnight Blue*, which also featured the saxophonist Stanley Turrentine, proved to be

one of the most atmospheric blue note sessions of the 1960s. Holley had a co-composer credit on "Mule", an achingly slow blues on which he sounded, as one critic put it, like a reluctant mule in a stall. Holley continued to make regular visits to Europe. His jovial figure, enlivened by many a festival, and audiences were usually treated to one of his extended solo spots, in which he used a bow while singing in unison. The technique, borrowed from Stan Stewart, had its limitations in the studio, but Holley's comic delivery was ample compensation on the concert stage.

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Originals: Rodney Peppé, toymaker

## Wooden it be nice?

RODNEY Peppé's art toys are coveted by adults and jealously guarded from children, for whom they are thought to be far too good. At exhibitions of Mr Peppé's work it is not unknown for sober-suited City types to charge, dinosaur-fashion, at small boys in their way.

Such is the cerebral appeal of his articulated toys that scientists at a symposium on movement were held spellbound by a wooden monkey he had made to climb at speed up a thin rope.

Highly decorated, his art toys often feature simple mechanisms based on Victorian and earlier 18th century toys. In his workshop at his home near Stroud, Gloucestershire, Mr Peppé incorporates traditional sand-toy movements into his designs. Luigi, his "over-the-hill" acrobat, is a perfect example of this, as the toy's flailing limbs sometimes make it over the bar from which it hangs, but often it is helplessly spreadeagled until a few grains of sand add the necessary weight to let it unravel, ready to try again.

Now in his fifties, Mr Peppé was an established writer and illustrator of children's books when he began making toys. One of his first examples was the richly decorated jumping jack, for which he continues to take commissions at about £25 each. In 1974 the British Toy Makers' Guild exhibited his early efforts, which were inspired by the *patines*. These



Toy strongman: Rodney Peppé

were popular in France in about 1750 but their convulsive arm and leg movements, operated by a string, induced such paroxysms in some pregnant women that they were thought hazardous and banned.

As Mr Peppé's interest in moving toys developed he was asked to write a book on the subject, which led to more exhibitions. He says: "I get letters from adults about my movables the way I do from children about *Huxley Pig*." The exploits of the pig and greedy *Huxley* are into their second series on ITV's children's programmes.

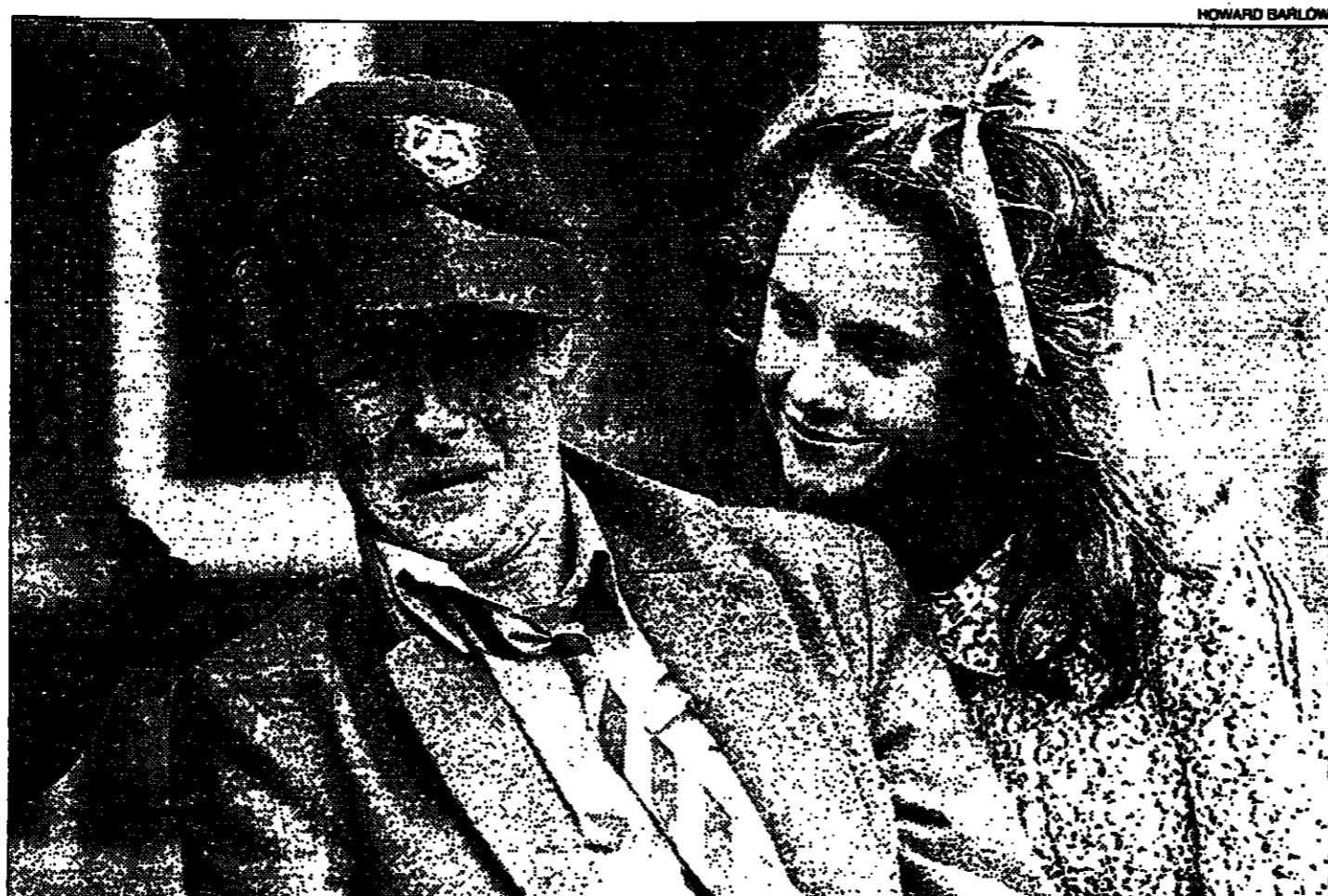
Mr Peppé's work spans the age spectrum, from under fives to the mature collector. However, he finds one group more interesting than others: "I find very young children most interesting, while they still have the drawing talent common to all children but which most of them lose."

He did his formal art training at the Central School of Art and Crafts in London, after which he went into advertising, "because there was more money". However, he enjoys making avocets such as his wooden "strong man" tribute to René Magritte, the Belgian surrealist, with dumbbells doubling for interchangeable heads. The strong man commissions cost about £90.

For an exhibition at the Kilvert Gallery, Clyro, near Hay-on-Wye, Powys, Mr Peppé is working on miniature chairs decorated in the style of Picasso, Klee and Matisse. The Painted Chair exhibition runs from November 18 to the end of January. At a showing of his toys at Cheltenham Art Gallery and Museum early next year the art works from many of his books for children will also be on sale. At the exhibition Mr Peppé will host a toy discovery day, demonstrating his toys and getting children to make their own, modelled on Victorian originals.

SANDY BISP

Further information from Mr Peppé (028352 666); the Kilvert Gallery, Clyro, Powys (0497 820831); and Cheltenham Art Gallery and Museum (0242 257431).



"Til the weasam and the weasam": look-alikes William (Jane Townsend) and Violet Elizabeth Bott (Antonia Myles-White) at St Elphin's School

## William and the big party

William would love it. Stew and dumplings for lunch, sticky buns and jam sandwiches

for tea, boiled sweets all day long. He might miss the liquorice water, but it is thought the adults will prefer cups of tea. The final preparations for the celebrations at St Elphin's School in Derbyshire to mark the centenary of Richmal Crompton, its most famous "old girl", are reaching their climax. On November 15, the birthdate of the author of 38 William books, the school will be turned over to Williammania.

The day's programme has been printed on posters depicting the naughty schoolboy in front of the splendid school building, a hydro in the days of Derbyshire's famous health resorts. Here, in 1904, Richmal Crompton Lamburn arrived with her elder sister, Gwen. They were attending the Clergy Daughters' School at Warrington, Lancashire, when it decided to move its premises after an outbreak of scarlet fever.

Miss Crompton later wrote about the move in the school magazine: "The half-term was a never-to-be-forgotten day. We arrived breathless, hot and brimful of curiosity at 'Darley Dale Hydro' and overran every corner of it. Then we swarmed over the village in parties, bought up all the flowers, picture postcards and mineral waters that the inhab-

Richmal Crompton's old school is observing her centenary. Lynne Greenwood reports

itants could supply, and finally met together at the Whitworth Institute where we consumed a large pre-war tea of boiled eggs, bread and butter and jam and every sort of cake."

The ingredients sound similar to the William feast planned for next Thursday in the gym at 4.05pm. "We banished at sardine sandwiches because the girls might not like them, but there will be wobbly jellies," Joy Revell, the school's director of admissions, says. Her room is piled high with William mugs, bookmarks and boxes of old-fashioned boiled sweets and humbugs.

Among the guests on Thursday will be Richmal Ashbee, Miss Crompton's niece and literary executor. She will be at the school early on Thursday to witness some pupils arriving by carriage in a reconstruction of the 1904 arrival of the girls from Warrington. Throughout the day all staff and pupils will wear Edwardian dress.

The formal part of the day also includes a tree planting ceremony by Mrs Ashbee, a centenary service in the school chapel and lunch - which is where William's influence will really take hold. The menu is stew and dumplings or cottage pie (cheese pie for the

head of English, says. "We had tried the BBC, but they claimed they had no scripts in their archives."

The highlight of the day will be the look-alike contest, which the upper thirds of St Elphins, the 12-year-olds, are most excited about. Pupils can change into their outfits only after the morning programme is completed. "We thought it might spoil the formality of the morning, with everyone in Edwardian dress, to have Williams and Violets scattered among us," Mrs Hodgson says.

Mrs Ashbee, who has many fond memories of her aunt, is looking forward to the day. But she is still not convinced that those who have assessed her aunt's achievements have fully grasped her sense of fun.

In her contribution to the school magazine's section on the centenary, she writes: "She was never the soulful agonised waif that has been envisaged by some of those who take her books too literally. She used to say she was sorry for modern schoolchildren because they had so few school rules that they could never know the excitement of breaking them."

"Perhaps this is a large part of the secret of William? He broke more rules than most people have a chance to. How else could a well brought up girl from St Elphin's have created the most endearing anarchist of all time?"

"We were so lucky to bump into him at a meeting of the William Society this year," Ann Hodgson,

Farmer's diary: Paul Heiney

## Phantom of the organic opera

IF YOU have never read the farming press, perhaps I can save you the trouble. They are journals of unrelenting intensification. "If you're not getting more, you're getting nowhere", might be their motto. This week I have read how to increase birthrate in pigs by 0.2 per litter, and been told that for only £5,000 I can buy a machine to suck stray grains from the bottom of storage bins. The big news is that the Dames have invented a "Fat O' Meater" to judge when pigs are ready for the butcher.

Well, my old sow, Alice, tells me she has no use for 0.2 of a piglet; the chickens, at a capital cost of £2.75, see to it that any spilt grains are pecked up; and when an old and trusted stockman turns up and declares in his broad Suffolk accent that "them hogs be right ready", I shall ring the butcher.

The farming press and I live in different worlds. Its journals are designed to seduce and titillate with promises of more corn by using more chemical spread by bigger machines over more land. Soft cornography, I call it.

However, I have gleaned one good idea from them: it came in an article written straight from the broken heart of a family farmer who had suffered poverty and hardship to pursue his dream of organic farming. His plight was desperate, but his solution was inspired.

He was struggling, like I am, to farm on his own, he, too, could not afford full-time help. So he invented a fantasy farmworker called "Reg". Reg is ever-willing, always available and there is no limit to his skill. If you get up in the morning to find the cows have broken the fence, you think to yourself, "I'll get Reg to fix that," and continue your breakfast. The imaginary Reg is a helpful man to have around.

Now this fictional farmhand is working for me, too. I have a corner of the yard littered with bits of old bale-string and paper sack- ing for Reg to tidy up. There is a catch on the stable door held by only one screw; I thought I might get Reg to fix that as well. Reg has broad shoulders. I swear it was him and not me who left the chain off the gate the other night and let the horses roam. He got a good telling-off, but was still bright and cheerful when I asked him to creep into the pig shelters with fresh straw. Funny, it's one of those jobs

I never got round to, but Reg seems to thrive on such tasks.

This week, my dream of full-time helper came true. Reg ceased to be fantasy and became fact. He came in the form of an 18-year-old schoolgirl, who wrote asking if she could give us a hand. I jumped at the offer. She arrived with an armful of A-level geography text books and a keen desire to be around working horses.

Without doubt, she knocked Reg into second place. After only one demonstration of harnessing she was able to get the horses ready for ploughing, and was invaluable when moving sheep from an exhausted pasture to a fresh field - not an easy job on your own, even with a good sheepdog like our Flash.

She eventually established a good working relationship with the piglets, who, I fear, are at that difficult age where their ever-growing strength combined with an acute lack of table manners can easily have you head over muddy heels if you are not careful at feeding time.

By the end of the week I was sad to see her go, but gladdened by a chance remark she made as we drove to the railway station. "Your animals," she said, "aren't like animals I've ever met on farms before. They're not aggressive, they're calmer. Content - that's the word." This was music to my ears. More uplifting than any of Reg's imagined grumbles.

Then she made another fundamental observation, which showed she had really understood what we are trying to do on this little farm. "All your animals," she said, "do other things apart from just being fed and sent to the butcher." She's right. Our sheep are tidying-up, and manuring, a field of stubble before ploughing. When the pigs have finished work in the orchard, I have a piece of land which will make ready for next year's potatoes. As for the contented cows, they are making rich manure, for which the whole farm will be grateful.

Reg is back on duty now, and I do not expect that he will come up with any such profound observations. However, I have decided that he can make the weekly trip for the farming papers. I suspect they are both of similar mind. Neither of them seems to see any point in what we real farmers are trying to do.



Breeding

## King of bright water

THE British otter is alive and well, thanks to people such as Philip and Jeanne Wayne, who founded the Otter Trust almost 20 years ago.

"From 1950 to 1970, the otter population crashed," Mr Wayne says. "Otters had been common in Norfolk, but their numbers dropped to about 30."

The near demise of the British otter is attributable to poisonous pesticides and the destruction of habitats, hallmarks of intensive farming. Mr Wayne, aged 69, was alerted to the plight of otters in the early Sixties while making a television film of his largely autobiographical book, *Wind in the Reeds*, based on his interest in natural history. "I needed British otters for the film and advertised for cubs, offering £50 for each one. It was a lot of money at the time, but in the end I had to import otters from America."

Traps employed to reduce the coypu population in East Anglia occasionally snared an otter, which was invariably shot and its pelt sold for £5. "So I said I would pay £10 for every live otter - most of which I released, although I kept some for breeding," he says.

In 1972 he and his wife established the Otter Trust at what was originally a small marsh farm near Bungay, Suffolk. The trust, which now has 15,000 members paying an annual £15 subscription, is a registered charity for the conservation of otters worldwide, with the emphasis on the British otter. The smaller, Asian short-clawed otter is also kept by the trust, because it is people-friendly, and diurnal.



Handle with care: a British otter. The bonding instincts of the short-clawed otters are strong, with pairs staying together. Except for mating, however, the British otter is solitary: the mere proximity of the male may cause the female to eat her cubs.

There are now about 50 otters at Bungay, and a parallel breeding programme at the trust's Cornwall branch, opened in 1986. Mr Wayne hopes another will open in Yorkshire next year.

Areas considered for recent releases include the river Deben in Suffolk, the Derwent in Yorkshire, the Stour in Dorset and a tributary of the Bristol Avon.

The British otter falls a long way short of its popular, playful image. Mr Wayne holds up a little finger. "Otters bite - and here's one little finger without an end joint to prove it," he says. "Aristotle said an otter wouldn't let go until it heard the bone crunch, and believe me, Aristotle knew his natural history."

S.B.

Further information from the Otter Trust, Bungay, Suffolk NR35 2AF (0986 3470).

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Wheel alignment: in busy city centres the ability to stay awake while looking for a space can be more important than the ability to park

## Space invaders' last frontier

Learner drivers are frantically applying for their driving tests well before April 1 next year, according to their instructors. This is because after that date hopeful drivers will not only have to execute the dreaded three-point turn and reverse round a corner, they will also have to park.

Now, the instructors say, most people pass without having the faintest idea of how to park their car once they get it home from the test centre. Some people, though competent in all other respects, swear that after years of driving they still cannot reverse into a parking space. The instructors, who believe they are teaching people to drive, not just pass the test, think this is disgraceful. "I never cease to be amazed at test centres to see other instructors reversing into bays for their pupils," says John Burnell, the director of the Driver Education Centres in Southampton and Gloucester.

Inability to park may not have mattered in other, less congested days, but now that city streets are choked with parked cars and traffic jams, not being able to slide backwards into a space without scraping the paint off nearby cars is a serious handicap. "I taught myself to park - but that was fine

Learners are rushing for tests before the dreaded parking manoeuvre is added to the test. Geraldine Bedell reports

in the days when there were only two million cars on the road and people were all nice. Now there are 22 million cars, and people are not nice at all," Mr Burnell says.

An ability to park deftly matters most to those who live in crowded inner cities, without benefit of suburban driveway or garage. In our part of Islington, north London, it is increasingly difficult to find a parking space within jogging distance of our house, since our nanny can park only forwards, she has several times had to leave the car some streets away. Invariably she has then disappeared for the weekend, leaving us to scour the neighbourhood for a scruffy black BMW.

From April, examiners will be required to test two of three manoeuvres: reversing round a corner, three-point turn and parking. "If the area is heavily congested, they won't have to test on the parking; they won't do anything that might pose a risk to people, property or cars," says Peter Dolan, a spokesman for the Driving Standards

Agency, the government body which sets the test. But if instructors in those areas have trouble finding suitable teaching places, will people most in need of parking skills find them hardest to acquire? "I wouldn't particularly

quiet streets you get people knocking on the window asking why you're manoeuvring a learner into a fairly tight space when there's a much bigger gap up the road."

### 'Instructors often have to reverse into bays for their pupils'

Mr Burnell reports similar dismay when he tries to teach parking. "I've had traffic wardens come up in multi-storey car parks and tell me I am not allowed to teach there. I ask them whether they want new drivers reversing towards their nice shiny cars to know what they're doing or not, and they usually go off in a snail."

Instructors (whose professional bodies have pushed for parking to be part of the test) say not learning to park properly can make life a misery. John Bell, the director of the Reliable Driver Training Centre in Worcestershire, has seen drivers who are too frightened to go into a multi-storey car park.

Some instructors hold with the popular notion that women are worse at parking than men. "Yes, women are worse, but only because they don't get the prac-

tice," says Malcolm Cazzaly, the owner of the Highway School of Motoring in Edinburgh. "Men have this thing about 'my car'; I know husbands who won't let their wives park and always take over when the space is a bit tight."

Women worry about paintwork," Ms McKelvey says. "Men don't care. Men just reverse and they're probably lucky." Such confidence can be dangerous, however, Mr Burnell cautions. "Driving is the last initiation rite in our society. Men can't bear the idea of not being good at it, and are always trying to prove themselves and rushing into things, whereas the way to park is always to do everything four times more slowly than you think necessary."

Other hints include looking all around you. "If you could put your eyes on stalks 20ft above your head you would never have any accidents," says Mr Burnell, not altogether helpfully. Mr Cazzaly recommends looking over your right shoulder rather than left, so as to line up with the car behind you.

Some cars are just easier to park than others. Some believe parking is possible only with power steering. Instructors mention the old Datsun Sunny and the new Ford Escort as particularly bad because of high back windows.

## Making sure we remember them

Tomorrow is Remembrance Sunday, but what is the state of the countless memorials around the country honouring the fallen?

The names of about 200 of Croydon's first world-war dead, names intended to live for evermore, were found dumped in a builder's skip when St James's church was converted into an old people's home. Now the pile of gold-engraved slabs, chipped and broken, lies in an office at the Imperial War Museum, south London.

The office is run by Catherine Moriarty, aged 26, who, for the past 18 months, has been organising the first national inventory of war memorials.

The Croydon incident has not been resolved, she says. "When we wanted to put the names back in place it was pointed out that the old people at the home might not find them very cheerful, but we'll find a way."

Another problem concerned the memorial to an RAF flight lieutenant whose death in the second world war had been commemorated with a stained glass window in another church, which had later been made redundant. "His relatives could not find a suitable place for the window, even his old school turned it down," Miss Moriarty says. But she noticed the man's squadron crest and number in a corner of the window and this led to the officer's sacrifice being honoured by the RAF.

Concern about war memorials was the subject of a letter to *The Times* in 1988 from Dr Alan Borg, the director-general of the Imperial War Museum, which triggered the national inventory project.

The early word from the fieldworkers putting together this five-year inventory is that most war memorials are still in good shape. But there is not yet much idea of how many there are. The Boer war, the first widely commemorated conflict, alone produced more than 600 memorials. The first world war - marked in almost every British hamlet, church, and school, and in many businesses - will be the inventory's chief concern.

Muriel Monk, volunteered for inventory fieldwork from her home in Dorset, and says it has become a fascinating hobby. "I decided to try to locate all the memorials within ten miles of my home. I did not realise how many I would find - about 150 at the moment, and still growing. I have found memorials in gardens, schools, hospitals, and prisons."

"My most unusual finds are a memorial in the form of an aircraft propeller in a sentry box at a holiday camp, and a thatched bus shelter." The bus shelter gives point to the whole undertaking. It commemorates an airman shot down in the second world war. His parents, local dentists, put it up in response, perhaps, to the general feeling that memorials ought also

to be useful. But they emigrated to Canada, and the shelter fell out of use. Dilapidation, decay and eventual disappearance seemed inevitable. But after the introduction of the War Museum catalogue, what ever happens to the bus shelter will not be simply because of ignorance.

Because the inventory is being done on a shoestring budget of about £20,000 a year, the fieldworkers are unpaid. They have been recruited mainly through the Royal British Legion and local councils. Ex-servicemen's and local history societies have also helped out. Regional co-ordinators have sprung up to help streamline the operation.

Reluctant to make comparisons, Miss Moriarty allows that the north-east has performed impressively. But preoccupying her, beyond the statistics, is the sense of national grieving on an unprecedented scale: during the first world war. The educated recorded their feelings, she says, but there's now a way of looking at how ordinary people felt.

"It's amazing the really moving letters they wrote to the mayors, and if you read between the lines you get a substantial picture of the impact of the Great War on a local community."

She hopes that the specialist archive resulting from the inventory will also allow public access to these broader themes.

There is a big "additional comments" panel on the fieldworkers' record sheets for evidence of wider dimensions. For example, disputes about siting - the churchyard or elsewhere, the temperance lobby objecting to a licensed ex-servicemen's club; the misgivings in Bradford about the two marauding Tommies with fixed bayonets flanking the cenotaph, which the mayor felt "did not strike the right note" (Forty years on, the bayonet blades were anonymously snapped off).

A doubt remains: over what many think central to any archive: will the hundreds of thousands of names of the dead be included? To begin with this was ruled out on the ground of cost and time. Then individual memorials - the bus shelter again - were seen to be meaningless without the names.

"With external funding of only about £15,000 a year, from the Leverhulme Trust, cost remains important. Yet without the names demographic, local history, and genealogical studies will be hampered."

Doubts continue, but the fieldworkers are sending in all the names on separate sheets so that ways of incorporating them can be tried.

JOHN O'CALLAGHAN

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### Events in town

#### THIS WEEKEND

● **Lord Mayor's Show:** The city's most colourful pageant. Procession leaves the Mansion House at 10.45am and proceeds from Guildhall via Bank, St Paul's Churchyard, Ludgate Circus and Fleet Street to Royal Courts of Justice, Strand at 12.15pm. Returns at 1.15pm via Queen Victoria Street to arrive at the Mansion House at 2.15pm. It takes about 45 minutes for the procession to pass any one point. Fly-past by the Royal Air Force at 2pm, fireworks display from a barge on the Thames opposite Victoria Embankment at 8pm. City of London, today.

● **Remembrance Sunday:** Annual ceremony commemorating those who died in battle. Cenotaph, Whitehall, London SW1. Tomorrow, 11am. Spectators welcome. Free.

● **The Caravan Show 1990:** All aspects of caravanning and camping. Earls Court Exhibition Centre, Warwick Road, London SW5. Until Nov 18, daily 10am-6pm. Adult £4.50, child £3.

● **County Antiques Fair:** Furniture, paintings, ceramics, silver and general items. Rudding House, Harrogate, Yorkshire (0837 845825). Today, 10am-6pm; tomorrow, 10am-5pm. Admission £2.50.

#### NEXT WEEK

● **Christmas lights:** Cliff Richard switches on the Oxford Street lights outside HMV. London. Mon, 6.25pm.

● **The Prince and the Architect:** A Prince of Wales birthday special walk. Museum of London, London Wall, London EC2. Wed, 11.15am. Further information 081-806 4325.

● **Fiftieth anniversary of the Blitz:** Series of events to commemorate the day Coventry was devastated. Includes torchlight procession, cavalcade of cars, street theatre and switching on of the Christmas lights. Coventry City Centre, Warwickshire. Wed. Further information 0203 831343.

● **CORRECTION:** The Money Show, listed as taking place last weekend, will now take place until next year.

JUDY FROSHAUG



"There's now a way of looking at how ordinary people felt," Catherine Moriarty, who is organising the first national inventory of memorials

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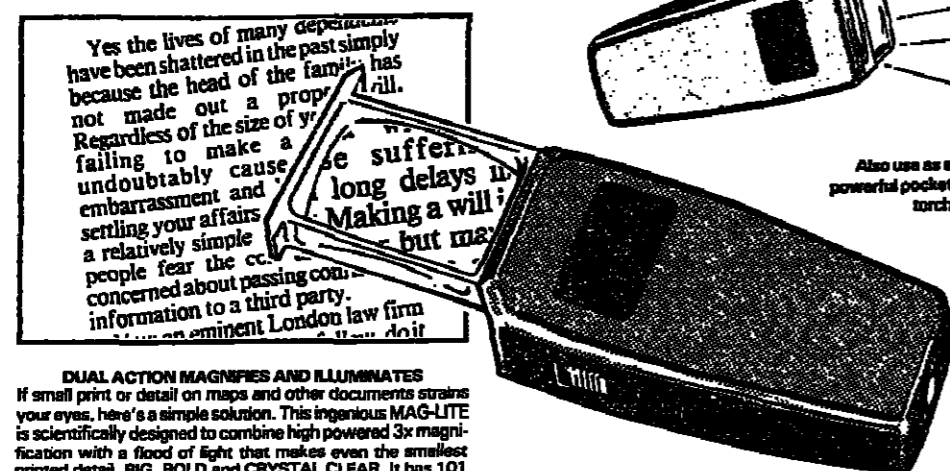
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**Review**

**Preview**

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ARTS



Updike: *Rabbit at Rest* is a "depressed book by a depressed man"

LITERATURE: NEW YORK

# Rabbit as metaphor for America's decline

John Updike's recent novel has provoked an intense bout of self-examination in the United States. Charles Bremner reports

This has been a mournful autumn in America, with the bite of recession, expectations of war and rising petrol prices. Images of decline tumble daily from the media, comforting the gloom-mongers waiting for the economy to catch up with the moral collapse they have been diagnosing since the height of Reaganism.

For some, the ultimate proof was the television commercial in which a near-naked Madonna, draped in the Stars and Stripes, coaxed younger citizens to vote with the promise that casting your ballot is "better than sex". For others it was the decision to exempt pupils from having to write a single word of their own in school-leaving exams. Anything but multiple-choice boxes was considered too demanding.

Down from the high of the Eighties, *Time* magazine argued this week that America had become addicted to ignorance: "Did the American Dream, all along, mean nothing more than the quest for painlessness?" That question could have come straight from Harry "Rabbit" Angstrom, the anti-hero of John Updike's just-completed tetralogy of novels.

The last of these once-a-decade excursions through the state of America (published by Andre Deutsch in Britain, and reviewed in *The Times* on November 1), *Rabbit at Rest* has touched a raw nerve, unsettling reviewers and even prompting an editorial in the *New York Times*. The question exercising critics is whether Updike has gone too far in depicting the demise of the selfish, superficial Rabbit as a metaphor for the America that was born in the abundance of the post-war decade and, in Updike's view, ended with the 1989 revolutions.

In *Rabbit at Rest*, the one-time basketball star turned lecherous suburbanite, who first appeared in the 1959, succumbs to heart failure after 500 pages of morose reflection on his own and America's decline. Living half the year in Florida on the riches from his Toyota dealership, gorging on junk food, he is obsessed with decay. "Everything falling apart: airplanes, bridges, eight years under Reagan of nobody minding the

store, making money out of nothing, trusting in God." In a recurrent nightmare, he is haunted by the image of Pan Am Flight 103.

As Updike explains, his is "a depressed book about a depressed man written by a depressed man". He thinks the mood suits the "sense of weariness" now afflicting America. Everyone agrees that he has done a marvellous job of evoking the feel of the era, but his critics are uncomfortable about according literary merit to what they deem to be a catalogue of headlines, television programmes and clothing styles. Tom Wolfe came in for similar criticism over *Bonfire of the Vanities*, which many saw as too realistic to qualify as art.

Louis Menand, writing in *Esquire*, allowed that *Rabbit's* emptiness will present future historians with a key to the American Cold War psyche, but he chastised Updike for producing a "Moby Dickish encyclopaedia of American life". Menand is unhappy, one assumes, about such metaphorically loaded touches as having a

man from the Japanese car company visit Rabbit and demand repayment of the debt run up by his cocaine-addict son. "Isn't that how we see the Japanese, as the price we're paying for our sins?" the author retorts.

For Gary Willis, who dissected *Rabbit* in the *New York Review of Books*, Updike fails because his hero lacks "moral heft" and is given a voice that was implausibly perceptive for one of his uncouth behaviour and background. *The Wall Street Journal* congratulated Updike on the detail, but complained that "in setting himself up as the curator of the panoramic living museum that is America, he has left his hero standing somewhere outside the gates".

George Will, the conservative columnist, took a similar line, saying it was fun to ransack *Rabbit* for social diagnoses but he was unhappy with the view of a sclerotic America gorging itself to death on junk food. "Is America

mortal? Maybe, even probably, but not imminently," he said. Perhaps Updike was confusing his own condition with the world's.

The *New York Times* came to Updike's defence this week, wondering why he was getting "this bum's rush". The critics were revealing more about America's discontent with itself than about the novel, it mused. It ascribed part of the negative reaction to the snobbery of the literary world. Rabbit, a car salesman without a university degree, and unfashionably overweight to boot, was not a worthy subject for carrying a high moral message. Most of all, Harry Angstrom failed to transform himself as the taste of the video-age dictates, the paper suggested.

Updike, who says he has given Rabbit up with difficulty, dismisses the charges about putting high-down ideas in the mind of a low-born hero. "Shakespeare had people talk in blank verse when they don't really," he said the other day. He now says he plans to write a novel about the 1970s, the pre-Aids time that he considers "something of a paradise: lost".

Leading article, page 13

THEATRE

## Eastern tables turned

NOBODY with a television and an interest in life will ever forget last autumn: the demos, the huge crowds, the glum functionaries ceding power to actors, authors and other such oddballs. But we have yet to hear, at least in any detail, what happened in the crises and sancta where change was mooted and agreed. That is the gap David Edgar seeks to fill in his new play at the Cottesloe.

The result will not be to everybody's taste. Some may feel Edgar should spend more of his last act welcoming the arrival of freedom in Eastern Europe, and less hinting at the social perils he believes it brings. Some may be disoriented by the shifts and swerves of a play that consists almost entirely of meetings. Some may wish the hubbub of the streets was not simply background to the minutes Edgar has taken on the negotiations of 1989. Some may titch for less talk, more event.

Still, the play makes an honourable contribution to the department of East European studies that our left-leaning dramatists seem to be opening. It lacks the sweep and impressionistic verve of Caryl Churchill's *Mad Forest*. It also lacks the simpleness of Howard Brenton and Caryl Churchill's *Gold*. Edgar's aim is less imaginatively ambitious than the one, more complex than the other: to present the case-study of an unwilling suicide; to suggest how the communists were manoeuvred onto the pol-

**Benedict Nightingale**  
reviews the latest  
Edgar play: *The Shape of the Table*

itical sill and why they jumped. While Churchill's setting is Romania, and Brenton's Russia, Edgar's setting is a capsule country with obvious similarities to Czechoslovakia. The party chief, Stratford Johns's elephantine Lutz, has ruled ever since a Soviet invasion undid the reforms of the liberal communist, John Ringham's Spassov. A writer turned window-cleaner turned political prisoner, Karl Johnson's unassuming but unyielding Prus, pushes a coalition called Public Platform to power and himself to the presidency. The change of names may seem evasive, but it gives Edgar the freedom to speculate without risk of demur.

He certainly knows how meetings operate, and takes a grandmaster's delight in a canny attack or elegant knight-fork. The communists are themselves divided and, except for the Lutz faction, lacking in self-belief; but they still imagine they can fend off democracy by adding the odd "tend to" or "consider" to their declarations. They opt for what they think are superficial concessions, tactical retreats, figleaf alliances, only to self-destruct under the fear of close scrutiny of

their history. To adjust the metaphor, they try to trick evolution into seeing them as other than dinosaurs and, naturally, they fail.

The play's title is also its set, and the set its meaning. Only a thin cloth conceals the fact that the huge object stage-centre is a cluster of little tables, not a single vast one. A similar point is nicely made when everybody intones what seems to be the same national anthem, but actually has different words depending on the politics of the singer. Yet Edgar's dialogue is not always as clear as his imagery when it comes to showing the coming of pluralism.

Part of the problem may be Jenny Killick's direction. It produces several performances that seem self-conscious and studied, and only one that is impressively incisive: Stephen Boxer's adonoidal, ingratiating Interior Minister. It fails to get the menace and burly charisma from Johns his part demands, and lets him react to the loss of supreme power with body-language so mild it would not unsettle a mosquito. Yet Edgar's language has its ponderous, obfuscating moments, too.

Is it fair to object to an ending which allows the disgraced Lutz, of all people, to lecture Prus about the danger of losing his ideals, becoming compromised by office, and so on? It might seem so, especially as the writer-president also stands accused of playing Pandora with a country whose national box includes skinheads wanting to gas gypsies. Yet Edgar



Set for confrontation: Old forces meet new in *The Shape of the Table*

is no clockwork marxist. Indeed, one of his strengths is his willingness to embrace contradiction. As he sees it, Lutz can be devious, corrupt and far worse, yet have a dogged integrity of sorts. What is liberating for some may

create new insecurities for others, and still be right and necessary. *Shape of the Table* may be dry beside Edgar's best work, but it still challenges the braincells.

BENEDICT NIGHTINGALE

THEATRE

## Civilised scratches

CHEKHOV'S *Uncle Vanya* at the Theatre Royal, Bristol, begins well. The panelled box set, raked stage and blue walls in the receding perspective which is now something of a cliché, is terminated by sky and cornfields; it slightly jars with the naturalistic rhythms and intimate conversational style of Paul Unwin's production.

This reservation apart, the play gets off to a cracking start with Patrick Malahide's beautifully judged Astrov and Saskia Wickham's dumpy Sonya - dogged dedication in pinafore and headscarf. Christopher Hampton's idiomatic translation, both relaxed and buoyant, is seized on with relish.

It seems ungrateful to complain, but thereafter this intelligent production unfolds smoothly but entirely on the surface.

The characters' lack of depth is illustrated by Denys Hawthorne's professor, less a complacent monster than a well-spoken cypher rattling off his lines at face value, irritated or querulous as the occasion demands, but with no feeling of continuity. Every Chekhov character has a past, and the lack of an implied history must be accounted a failure. There are better ways of conveying superficial people than by superficial playing.

Timothy West gives us a brisk, exasperated Vanya, near the end of his tether from the very beginning of the play, and erupting into often very funny throw-

away indignation. The stretched, gimlet mouth, angry eyebrows and bald pate lend themselves to comedy, dangerously close to Dickensian caricature, but convey less of the thankless slog of 25 wasted years.

The most puzzling, as well as the most promising, performance comes from Kate Lynn-Evans. She is a lovely picture, as Yelena should be, with an unexpectedly warm personality. Certainly bored and out of her element, although never lazy nor languorous, this Yelena is patently looking for a way to channel her energies to some useful purpose. The character is given an immensely sympathetic reading, but seems to be at odds with the character as observed and described by the others.

The actress's naturalism is sometimes blurred or rendered inaudible by continual competition with uninhibited Bristolian coughing from an audience struck by autumn chills. She hardly reacts (the test of a complex Yelena) to Astrov's forestry lecture - and the audience is even shown the maps, all very proper and ecological as befits Chekhov's prophetic writing.

By this time, Tim Reed's design has made sense, closing in claustrophobically around the company. But the production remains a civilised comment on *Uncle Vanya*, rather than an exploration of the agonies within.

MARTIN HOYLE



Well balanced: Siobhan Davies' *Different Trains*

DANCE

## Steamy memories in motion

A SENSE of urgency pervades Siobhan Davies' *Different Trains* at Sadler's Wells, and it is packed with activity. The remarkable thing is that with so much going on all the time, both music and dance remain clearly focused.

Steve Reich's score provides the driving force, with the four musicians in the pit playing swift, short phrases, up to three more layers of recorded string quartets superimposed, voices making flat statements that are repeated rhythmically, and sounds of trains interrupting all through. All this finds a parallel in the events on stage.

The choreographer uses much swift movement, often with a risky off-balance quality, but she also (as she explained in this paper on Thursday) introduces a gestural element developed from sign language. Frequently there is a kind of frozen conversation in one part of the stage as contrast with the busy dance elsewhere. Another recurring motif is of two dancers sinking to the ground balanced against each other as if for comfort as well as for support.

At the back of the stage, David Buckland has placed a high wall, patterned with the ends of cylinders, against it two big, irregularly shaped

fans revolve. These objects reveal different textures and colouring as Peter Mumford's lighting changes, also affecting the atmosphere on stage, with especially chilling effect at the end of the central sequence.

The motive behind the shape and tone of the work is the text (printed in the programme because not all of it is easy to hear). During the first part, reassuring adults make remarks about train journeys in the United States 50 years ago. In part two, the same banal, matter-of-fact tone continues, but what the voices are describing is the experience of the Jews in Nazi-occupied Europe: Davies and her collaborators respond to this with a chilled bleakness. The final section brings together both elements in the music and dance for a difficult reconciliation in memory.

The six dancers are Davies' usual team, their individual qualities sharpened and reinforced by collective purpose. They and the Smith Quartet perform *Different Trains* in a way that makes the most of its gripping intensity.

*Different Trains* has another performance at Sadler's Wells tonight.

JOHN PERCIVAL

THANKS to a delayed pension, a French *demi-mondaine* and an Italian music festival, an audience at the Barbican this week heard a rare piece of late Rossini, which warmed the core of an otherwise sombre November evening in the City.

*Giovanna d'Arco*, a little-known but appropriately fiery dramatic *gran scena* for soprano, was written after *William Tell* and before Rossini moved back to Italy, assured of his state pension. At this time, his own late-flowering love burgeoned in his marriage to Balzac's mistress, no less. She it was who fanned the flame of inspiration for his treatment of the Joan of Arc story.

The piece remained as silent as the dedication, partly because the score was jealously guarded by Rossini, and partly because the piano-accompanied version struck too few sparks for its subject-matter. But when the distinguished mezzo Teresa Berganza wanted half a programme's worth of orchestral and vocal Rossini for the Pesaro festival in 1989, the composer Salvatore Sciarrino obliged by providing an "elaborazione per orchestra" of the original.

Not a trace of Sciarrino's own theatrical experimentation, and yet a great deal of his virtuosic instrumental sophis-

CLASSICAL MUSIC

## Rossini reclaimed

itation, was brought to bear. Sciarrino shows that he knows Rossini inside-out: the orchestral forces are authentic, and the sonorities true, not only to the letter, but also to the spirit of Rossini's own inspired imagination.

What is more, both the vocal writing and the orchestration might equally well have been conceived for Berganza at this particular stage in her career. A bassoon softens and thickens the

Tell-like darkness of the opening and finds an answer in the unaccompanied depths of Berganza's still lustrous mezzo.

The flare of a climax is happily met mid-voice and brightened with brass; woodwinds chase each other as the voice effortlessly gurgles its way into coloratura for a caballeta of triumph.

This was *vittoria* indeed, for *Giovanna* and its composer, for Sciarrino and for Berganza, and Pavo Berglund went on to conduct the London Symphony Orchestra in a performance of Sibelius's First Symphony that was no less burning in its conviction.

HILARY FINCH



Lustrous: Berganza

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**THE SUNDAY TIMES**  
**Burgess and the moguls**  
"I was summoned (to Hollywood) to discuss the creation of a script on the life of William Shakespeare, to be called *The Bawdy Bard*... I had nothing against a singing Shakespeare, being only too pleased that anyone should want to put the man Shakespeare on the screen at all. Bill [William Conrad, the producer] annoyed me only when he tried to improvise a song that began: To be or not to be in love with you / To spend my life being hand in glove with you."  
Anthony Burgess, from his autobiography, *In The Sunday Times* tomorrow.

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## SATURDAY'S TELEVISION &amp; RADIO

## BBC 1

- 7.00 Crystal Tipps and Aftair. Cartoon about a girl and her dog 7.05 Jonathan's Story Time. Cartoon series (1) 7.30 Paddington Bear (1) 7.45 Babel. Cartoon about a young elephant
- 8.00 Breakfast Series. Five series for children each starring Caroline Barry, John Bagnall, Lucy Jenkins and Michael Patne 8.35 BravaStar. Cartoon antics in outer space (1)
- 9.00 Going Live! Phil Schofield and Sarah Greene overlap with bounce and fun as they present the energetic programme for kids, with guests Bob Geldof, Debbie Gibson and Thelma Houston, who plays Mavis in *Coronation Street*
- 11.15 The Lord Mayor's Show. Lots of pomp and ceremony with the annual two-mile procession through the City of London. Eric Robson is the man with the mink descending marching bands, military detachments, colourful floats and the Lord Mayor, Alderman Sir Alexander Graham, travelling in his golden coach to take his oath of office 12.17 Weather
- 12.20 Grandstand introduced by Desmond Lynam. The line-up is (subject to alteration). 12.20 Football: the goals from this week's European competitions; 12.25 and 1.00 Rowing: the world championships from Tasmania, 12.40, 1.15 and 1.50 Racing from Cheltenham including the Mackeson Gold Cup at 1.55; 12.55 News; 1.30 Raising: the Mole 1.45 Challenge, round three; 2.10 Rugby League: live coverage of the game at Old Trafford between Great Britain and Australia; 3.50 Football half-time; 4.00 Rugby Union: highlights of the

game at Murrayfield between Scotland and Argentina; 4.40 Final Score

5.00 News with Mona Stuart. Weather 5.10 Regional news and sport. Wales (to 5.35); Wales on Saturday

5.15 Tom and Jerry Triple Bill (1) 5.35 The Noel Edmonds Saturday Roadshow. Noel and his crew visit the British Astronauts' Training School, where they are joined by comedian Billy Harte and Sir David Steel

6.20 Every Second Counts. Paul Daniels hosts the quiz for couples

6.55 Russ Abbot. With the latest instalment of the Thick Family Robinson and the premiere of the Smell of Music. (Ceefax)



Breathless enthusiasm: Annela Rice (7.25pm)

7.25 Challenge Annela. CHOICE: The ability of Annela Rice to get instant responses to seemingly impossible demands suggests that she is wasted on a mere Saturday evening entertainment. Her next challenge should be to get Saddam Hussein out of Kuwait and after that to sort out the Soviet economy. Meanwhile she undertakes the less daunting task of organising huge parties

for thousands of disabled children in Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland, accompanied by the usual hand-held camera and schoolgirl shrieks. In one short sequence her breathless enthusiasm gives vent to stunning, goosey, over-the-top laughter

Swapping into an office in Northern Ireland, Annela and her crew are mistaken for *Treasure Hunt*. It is a pardonable mistake. The current show has much in common with the Channel 4 series, although the dog-eating element also has echoes of *Arthur's Heels of Gold*. (Ceefax)

8.15 All Creatures Great and Small. Pleasing Yorkshire vet drama with characters as curious as their patients' ailments, based on the books by James Herriot. (Ceefax)

9.05 News with Philip Heyton. Sport and weather

9.25 Royal British Legion Festival of Remembrance. Members of the Royal British Legion gather in the Albert Hall for their annual Festival of Remembrance with the Queen, the Duke of Edinburgh and the Queen Mother in attendance. The Service of Remembrance is conducted by the Rt Rev Michael Owen, Bishop of Exeter and Bader providing the commentary

10.55 Film: *Harem* (1985) Sleepy tale of sand and seduction with Ben Kingsley as the sensitive sheikh who kidnaps New Yorker Nastasia Kinski and sweeps her off to his desert palace. But, Kinski discovers, there is a funny old game in store. Her husband, Arab is more interested in making her talk in love with him than in any fancy party. Directed by Arthur Joffe. (Ceefax)

12.30am Weather

## ITV LONDON

- 6.00 TV-am
- 9.25 Moominmoo. Young people's entertainment presented by Neil Buchanan, Andy Crane and Gaby Roslin. This week's guests include Craig McLachlan and David and there is an item on computer games
- 11.30 The ITV Chart Show. The vintage video slot features Phil Collins 12.30 Rock Rocks & New Trousers (1) (1)
- 1.00 News with Sue Carpenter. Weather 1.05 LWT News and weather
- 1.10 Sam & Greaves. Ian St John and Jimmy Greaves give up-to-date details and commentary on the sports scene
- 1.40 Sportsmasters. Sports quiz
- 2.10 Film: *The Looters* (1986). Frederick Stafford as an expert safe-cracker who is forced by revolutionaries to help in a heist on a ruthless Caribbean president's palace. Efficient thriller, co-starring Jean Seberg. Directed by Jacques Besnard
- 4.00 International Rugby Union. Alistair Hignell presents highlights of the game at the Parc des Princes, Paris, between France and New Zealand. The commentator is Bob Symonds with expert comment from Gerald Davies
- 4.45 Results Service presented by Elton Weisby

5.00 News with Sue Carpenter. Weather 5.05 LWT News and weather

5.15 Disney Cartoon Time 5.25 The New Adventures of Black Beauty: Horse Sense. Married helps Vicky by taking over her mail round when she goes to the city. All goes well until a letter disappears. Starring Stacy Dorn and Amber Williams

5.55 Catchphrase. Roy Walker hosts the computer quiz game

6.25 Blind Date. Once compulsory evening, Cilla Black's matchmaking show is now painfully predictable. (Oracle)

7.25 Beattie's About. Jeremy Beattie organises juvenile games in which members of the public are set up by their so-called friends

7.55 Stay Lucky. Bigamy Blues. In the last of the *Wipeout* series about the squabbling couple who live each other really. Sally's past catches up with her and threatens to destroy her future. Starring Dennis Waterman and Jan Francis. (Oracle)

9.00 News with Sue Carpenter. Sport and weather 9.15 LWT News

9.20 Film: *Alone* (1988). Squamous Weaver stars in this one-horror movie as the sole survivor of a mission to the planet with gruesome creatures who killed her shipmates. She returns, this time bringing a crack squadron of marines bent on destroying every

last trace of the astral uglies. However, their gung-ho tendency to charge into unknown situations leads them into more trouble than they could ever have envisaged. Unusually for a sequel, the film is as powerful as its original, with an intensity matching other works of the director James Cameron, such as *The Terminator*. Also starring Carrie Henn and Michael Biehn. (Oracle)

11.55 Philip Marlowe - Private Eye. Guns at Cyranos's Marlowe is hired by a heavy to find out if a threatening young bookie is really the beautiful girlfriend, which complicates matters. Starring Powers Boothe and Roxanne Hart. Followed by News headlines

12.50am The Best of the Best Club. Featured artists include Tina Turner and the Everly Brothers

1.50 The Time Tunnel. The time travellers Doug and Tony find themselves in Nottingham at the time of the conflict between King John and Robin Hood (1)

2.50 American College Football. Miami v Florida State

4.00 The Hit Man And Her. Pele Waterman and Michaela Strachan with the latest disco news, fashions and music

5.00 ITV Morning News with Phil Roman. Ends at 6.00

## CHANNEL 4

- 6.00 Comic Book. Cartoons with Aquaman, Dr Snuggles and the Mighty Thor
- 7.30 News summary
- 7.35 International Times. ITN reporters from around the world with reports on the latest news
- 8.00 Transworld Sport. International sporting news and interviews
- 9.00 News summary
- 9.05 Channel 4 Racing: The Morning Line. A preview of the past week's action and a preview of the weekend's racing programme
- 9.25 Sing and Swing. Performances by jazz stars of the Thirties and Forties
- 9.30 Same Difference. Libby Cross and Mark Todd introduce the series on disabled matters (1)
- 10.00 Check Out. A repeat of Tuesday's programme which included an item on private clamping companies and an interview with the health minister Virginia Bottomley. Presented by Sarah Gifford, John Spiller and John Walton. (Teletext)
- 10.30 Film: *Judge Hardy and Son* (1939, b/w) starring Mickey Rooney, Lewis Stone and Fay Holden. MGM's family saga continues with Mickey Rooney as Andy, here trying to earn some cash by tracking down a six-foot creature looking like a human and covered in orange hair would probably be dismissed as a leg-pull. The Wilkman seems to occupy the same place in Chinese folklore as the Loch Ness Monster does in ours. People are convinced they have seen it but no one can be sure. Inevitably, Professor Gurney Porter from Ohio and British cryptozoologist Richard Greenwell set out to solve the mystery. In the grandly-styled Wilkman Institute, which looks like somebody's back yard, they are shown a drawing of red hair creature coming from the elusive creature. The academics are properly sceptical. But more convincing evidence awaits them further on. At least they find it convincing. The rest of us may still be wondering if it is all a gag. (Teletext)
- 12.55 Film: *Alexander's Ragtime Band* (1938, b/w) starring Tyrone Power and Don Ameche. The first in a short series of films paying tribute to the late Irving Berlin in a lavish musical extravaganza, following the fortunes of two songwriters as they chase showgirl Alice Faye through a succession of honky-tonk clubs all the way to Carnegie Hall 30 years later. Directed by Henry King
- 4.55 Topping. A ballet of table tennis using edited footage of the sport
- 5.10 Newsline. Catch up with the inhabitants of Merseyside's Brookside Close (1). (Teletext)
- 6.30 Right To Reply. BBC 1's *The Estate*, which portrayed the Riddings Estate in Huddersfield, is accused of misrepresentation
- 7.00 The World This Week. Includes reports on the political situation in India and the likely impact of the current round of GATT negotiations on the economies of eastern Europe. Plus East Timor's struggle for independence from Indonesia. Since since the fall of General Aung, and the plight of Burma's Buddhists
- 8.00 Adventures: On the Trail of the Chinese Wildman. CHOICE: If today was April 1 and not November 10, this report from China on the efforts of two anthropologists to track down a six-foot creature looking like a human and covered in orange hair would probably be dismissed as a leg-pull. The Wilkman seems to occupy the same place in Chinese folklore as the Loch Ness Monster does in ours. People are convinced they have seen it but no one can be sure. Inevitably, Professor Gurney Porter from Ohio and British cryptozoologist Richard Greenwell set out to solve the mystery. In the grandly-styled Wilkman Institute, which looks like somebody's back yard, they are shown a drawing of red hair creature coming from the elusive creature. The academics are properly sceptical. But more convincing evidence awaits them further on. At least they find it convincing. The rest of us may still be wondering if it is all a gag. (Teletext)

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Pointing the way: a Chinese guide (8.00pm)

9.00 LA Law: Simian Charmed Evening. Glazy American drama based around a Los Angeles law firm in Los Angeles

10.00 Film: *The Emigrants* (1986, b/w). The second part of the autobiographical trilogy of writer Gösta Trolle, showing the flight of German Jews from Nazi persecution. Ferry has made his escape to America with Freddy. But Freddy is fighting for survival in New York's underclass, and is filled with memories of the Europe he left behind, which is fast being destroyed. Directed by Axel Corti

12.15am The Week with Jonathan Ross. The high and low points from the week's *Tonight* with Jonathan Ross

12.45 Snooty. The Snooty Candidates. Comedy thriller drama series about a nosy couple who meddle in things and often end up in sticky situations. Chance and Micky ruin their fourth wedding anniversary celebration in the pursuit of the snooty couple's wealthy Washington socialite. A prime suspect is a US congressman, but the only fresh clue is a series of personal horoscopes

1.40 The Word. A repeat of Friday's edition which included Boy George and Whitney Houston. Ends at 2.40

## BBC 2

- 9.00 Open University: Sandra's Story 9.25 Business to Business 9.50 A Bigger Europe for the Smaller Business 10.15 Mental Handicap: No Problem's Too Big
- 10.40 Endless Summer. Photographer James Ravilious rediscovers north Devon rural life through stunning old family photograph albums (1)
- 11.10 Pitfalls of a Sporting Life. Dem Bones, Dem Bones. Series looking at sporting myths. This morning Dutch experts look at ankle fractures (1)
- 11.25 Ballroom. First of a series of six ballroom films over various parts of Britain, starting with the Midlands. With Sue Beardsmore and, piloting the ballroom, Mike Kendrick (1)
- 11.55 The Honeycombers (b/w). Classic American comedy starring Jackie Gleason
- 12.20 Film: *Gold Diggers of 1933* (1933, b/w) Warren William, Joan Blondell and Ginger Rogers star in this big and bouncy Warner Brothers musical about a gold-digging young showgirl. Somehow the plot manages to include the players playing a Broadway show, but this is the formulaic thanks to the competence and enthusiasm of the showmanship. With choreography by Busby Berkeley and directed by Mervyn LeRoy
- 1.55 Discoveries Underwater. Series about underwater exploration. The search begins for traces of prehistoric humans in Scottish lochs, Swiss lakes and Florida caves (1). (Ceefax)
- 2.45 Mahabharat. Episode 26 of the 91-part Indian drama. In Hindi with English subtitles

3.25 Film: *Sweet Charity* (1969) starring Shirley MaLaure, Ricardo Montalban and Sammy Davis Jr. A triumphant directing debut for former choreographer, Bob Fosse, with the musical about a tart with a heart of gold who falls for a naive young man who is unaware that she earns her living as a hostess in a sleazy ballroom. (Ceefax)

5.45 Medico Vivo. First part of the introduction to Latin America. Spanish. Presented by Patricia de la Peña

6.10 Late Again. Highlights from the week's *The Late Show*

6.55 NewsView with Mona Stuart and Lynette Withrow. Weather

7.40 The Ring of the Millennium. Act 2. Continuing Richard Wagner's opera. Ekkehard Wlaschka, Robert Hale and Rene Kollo are accompanied by the Bavarian State Opera and Chorus conducted by Wolfgang Sawallisch

9.05 Saturday Night. Clive James takes a tongue-in-cheek look at television from around the world. His studio guest is David Frost

9.50 Moving Pictures. American director Peter Bogdanovich talks to presenter Kate Leary about his new film *Texasville*, the longest-winded sequel which reunites the cast of *The Last Picture Show*, shown at 11.30pm. There is also a profile of African film-maker Idriss Ouadrabo

10.40 Twin Peaks. Another chance to see episode three of David Lynch's mindbending cult drama. Agent Cooper dreams that Laura whispers the name of her killer in his ear. Will his intuition prove correct? There are dubious goings-on in the woods, a grief-stricken father and a dancing dwarf. (Ceefax)



Timothy Bottoms, Cloris Leachman (11.30pm)

11.30 Film: *The Last Picture Show* (1971, b/w). CHOICE: More than most of the seventies movie bad generation, Peter Bogdanovich grew up in awe of classic Hollywood and several of his early films (*What's Up, Doc?*, *At Long Last Love*) were deliberate homages. Nostalgia is also a powerful element of *The Last Picture Show* but here Bogdanovich transcended mere pastiche. In adapting Larry McMurtry's novel of small-town American life in the early Fifties, Bogdanovich treated the subject with an affection and an eye for detail, while avoiding any hint of literary sentimentality. Appropriately photographed in black and white, *The Last Picture Show* charts a teenager's awkward passage to maturity as the town's cinema closes and the Korean war beckons. There are Oscar-winning cast members for Ben Johnson and Cloris Leachman and, fine contributions also from the younger actors, notably Cybill Shepherd, Timothy Bottoms and Jeff Bridges. Ends at 1.30am

## ITV VARIATIONS

- ANGLOIA  
As London except: 12.30pm-1.00 Here Come the Double Deckers 1.15pm Here Come the Double Deckers 1.30pm Here Come the Double Deckers 2.00pm Here Come the Double Deckers 2.30pm Here Come the Double Deckers 3.00pm Here Come the Double Deckers 3.30pm Here Come the Double Deckers 4.00pm Here Come the Double Deckers 4.30pm Here Come the Double Deckers 5.00pm Here Come the Double Deckers 5.30pm Here Come the Double Deckers 6.00pm Here Come the Double Deckers 6.30pm Here Come the Double Deckers 7.00pm Here Come the Double Deckers 7.30pm Here Come the Double Deckers 8.00pm Here Come the Double Deckers 8.30pm Here Come the Double Deckers 9.00pm Here Come the Double Deckers 9.30pm Here Come the Double Deckers 10.00pm Here Come the Double Deckers 10.30pm Here Come the Double Deckers 11.00pm Here Come the Double Deckers 11.30pm Here Come the Double Deckers 12.00pm Here Come the Double Deckers 12.30pm Here Come the Double Deckers 1.00am Here Come the Double Deckers 1.30am Here Come the Double 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BBC 1

- 8.45 Through the Garden Gate. Nurseryman Dennis Cornish visits Woodstockworth and Dartington Hall, to find out how they reflect the revival of the herbaceous border (r)
- 9.15 A Vous la France? French for beginners series (r). Wales (to 12.30) See You Sunday 9.40 España Viva. Spanish studies (r)
- 10.05 Business Matters. The second of two special reports on eastern Europe presented by John Humphrys (r)
- 10.30 The Cenotaph. The Queen commemorates Remembrance Sunday by laying a wreath of red poppies at the Cenotaph in memory of those who lost their lives in two world wars
- 11.55 Approx This Is The Day. Linda May Evans looks at viewers' letters for Remembrance Sunday
- 12.05 See Hear! A special edition from Remembrance Sunday comes from Manchester, where a church service has been recorded by the deaf for a hearing audience
- 12.30 Country Life. John Craven reports from Ireland where farmers are fearing a gold rush in the countryside. Wales: Farming in Wales. 12.35 Weather
- 1.00 News with Maura Stuart. Followed by On The Record. How far is the Labour party prepared to go towards European economic and monetary union? Jonathan Dimbleby talks to Gerald Kaufman. The party's foreign affairs spokesman
- 2.00 EastEnders (r). (Ceefax)
- 3.05 The Flintstones. Cartoon (r)
- 3.30 Smash Hits Pop Winners' Party. Philip Schofield reports live from the London Arena, Docklands. Simultaneous broadcast with Radio 1

- 5.00 The Clothes Show. Pauline Quirke and Linda Robson, stars of *Bride of a Feather*, have outfits chosen for them
- 5.25 The Heists of Gold. Esther Rantzen and Michael Gorn present the programme which is really *Candid Camera* meets *That's Life*. Joining the presenters are Dame Vera Lynn, Janet Brown, Desmond Wilcox and the ubiquitous Paul Gascoigne
- 6.10 Sun Chance. Carol Vorderman investigates the world of risk and probability. (Ceefax)
- 6.20 News with Maura Stuart. Weather
- 6.35 Songs of Praise for Remembrance from Crucifix Wharf, Malta, presented by Marilyn Lewis. (Ceefax)



Below stairs: Paul Sheen, Su Pollard (7.15pm)

- 7.15 You Rang M'Lord? (r) CHOICE: No one will suggest that the upstairs/downstairs sitcom is anything but the lightest of spoofs, conducted for the most part in the tradition of farce, and yet there is more than a hint of social criticism for those who want to pick it up. The

Twenties may be roaring for the idle rich but pointed realism is also made to the three million unemployed and Paul Sheen's butler continues to be a spokesman for the revolution that will knock Lord Malmud and his like off their perch for good. As Marmaduke's brother, the rascally Tooty, is sent to work in the family rubber factory to keep his mind off growing chambermaids, most of us will be urging his fellow workers to rub his nose in it. As before the double entendres come thick and fast and Su Pollard's naive twang gets many of the best lines. She delivers them to perfection

- 8.05 Howards' Way. The mystery of a missing son of a missing son (Ceefax)
- 9.00 The Green Man. The conclusion of the ludicrous but compelling Kingsley Amis ghost story adapted by Malcolm Bradbury, with a marvellous performance by Albert Finney as the drunken, womanising, and finally, deciding to face evil and battle it out with Uncut, his resident ghost, Maurice hopes the evil doctor will reveal the powers at his disposal. (Ceefax)
- 9.50 News with Michael Bush. Weather
- 10.05 Heart of the Matter. Unfinished. Allied prisoners of war who are hoping for compensation after being used as slave labour in a German factory that produced the gas used by the Nazis in the Holocaust
- 10.40 The Days and Nights of Molly Dodd. American sitcom about an accident-prone real estate woman. Starring Brian Brown
- 11.05 Clean Sweep. A repeat of Thursday's edition of the comedy introduced by Jackie Sorensen
- 11.35 Menzies. Episode 26 (r) 12.15am Weather

ITV LONDON

- 6.00 TV-am with, at 6.00, Frost on Sunday Today's guests include Alesair Stewart. The newspapers are reviewed by Derek Jameson and Carol Thatcher
- 9.25 The Disney Club. Entertainment for the young presented by John Eccleston, Andrew Boardman and Gordon Inglis
- 10.15 Linc: Parenting USA. American legislation makes it difficult for a child to be adopted by severely disabled people. Kevin Mulhern talks to some happy parents who have been successful
- 10.30 Remembrance Day Service from St Mary's, Overingham, Northumberland
- 11.30 Oh, What a Lovely Tour! A special film for Remembrance Sunday which follows old soldier John Norman back to the fields of Flanders
- 12.00 The Human Factor. Rosemary Harill meets relatives of Greek Cypriots who have been missing since Cyprus occupied the island 16 years ago
- 12.30 LWT News Weekend. News and features from around the Thames area
- 1.00 News with Fiona Armstrong. Weather
- 1.10 Walden. Brian Walden interviews the distance swimmer Tom Kemp
- 2.00 Charles's Angels. Award and dated American drama about three glamorous women who work for a covert law enforcement agency (r)
- 2.55 The Match. Live coverage of the first division match at Molineux Stadium between Manchester City and Leeds United
- 5.05 Sunday Surgery. Glynis Hurndell is joined on the afternoon chat show by actress Shirley MacLaine, former Beattie George Hanson, actor and director Dennis Hopper and singer George Benson
- 6.00 The River Thames. Continuing the series about London's river. This week's programme includes archive footage of Tower Bridge, opened in

- 1894, and film of the digging of the Dartford Tunnel. Narrated by Gavin Weightman
- 6.30 News with Fiona Armstrong. Weather 6.35 LWT News and weather
- 6.40 Highway. St Harry Scambye visits Imber, deep in the heart of Salisbury Plain
- 7.15 Close To Home. Bland comedy series starring Paul Nicholas as a vet with domestic problems. With Pippa Guard and Angeliya Ross. (Ceefax)
- 7.45 The Ruth Rendell Mysteries: An Unkindness Of Ravens. When an unfaithful husband is discovered dead and buried in a wood, another case is opened for Wexford to investigate. (Oracle)
- 8.45 News with Fiona Armstrong. Weather 9.00 LWT News and weather
- 9.05 London's Evening. Blue Watch experiences a hectic night duty, when it is called to a fire in a dustbin, a stuck lift and a pregnant cat up a tree. (Oracle)
- 10.05 Spitting Image. Nobody is safe as the latex puppets return with a new series, poking fun at the famous, the not so famous and events in the news
- 10.35 The South Bank Show: Spitting Image



The spitting image: Melvyn Bragg (10.35pm)

democracy, decency and reasonable behaviour. Harry Enfield (the voice of Sir David, Douglas Hodge and James Cagney) thinks that much of the humour is schoolboyish. Steve Nallon confirms his reputation as the nation's best impersonator of Margaret Thatcher

11.35 Cornish, the Ninth Art. Continuing the series on the history of comics

12.10am The ITV Chart Show (r)

1.10 The Time Tunnel. The travellers find themselves on a Pacific island in 1945 and engaged in a deadly game with a Japanese plane. Starring Robert Cobert and James Darren (r)

2.05 Golf: PGA Tour 90. From the US, highlights of the Merrill Lynch shoot-out

3.05 Pick of The Week. The best clips from last week's regional television, presented by James White

3.35 Adventure. Breathtaking footage of man and the natural elements

4.00 The Silk Road. Documentary series about one of the ancient Asian trade routes (r)

5.00 Morning News with Phil Roman. Ends at 6.00

BBC 2

- 7.30 King Rollo. Cartoon (r) 7.35 Playdays (r) 7.55 Is That a Fact? An examination of the story of Dick Whittington (r) 8.10 Pinocchio. Animated tales of the boy puppet
- 8.30 Moviebeat. Multi-media series for children 8.45 LWT 1 Bits. Cartoon
- 9.10 Corners. Young people's questions answered (r) 9.30 Dungeons and Dragons. Cartoon adventures 9.55 Blue Peter Omnibus
- 10.40 Uncle Jack. The first episode and Uncle Jack is due to hand over the formula for the poison gas at the cafe. But to whom? (r). (Ceefax) 11.10 Boxpops. Music, television clips, and viewers' voxops (r) 11.50 The O-Zone. Music magazine
- 12.00 Regional review of the parliamentary week. Wales: See Heart; Northern Ireland: The Ulster Air Show
- 12.30 Scrutiny. New series which looks at the work of MPs in committee, always an area of lively debate, as they question and observe government activities. Their work includes scrutinising government bills in detail before the Commons passes them into law. This programme explains the Select Committee system and reveals MPs' attitudes towards it. Presented by Iain MacWhirter. (Ceefax)
- 1.00 One in Four. Magazine series on disability matters
- 1.30 Argyle - Sand, Sea and Sky: The Mountain Barrier. First of a three-part series focuses on the wildlife of the mountain range between the Red Sea and the deserts of Arabia (r). (Ceefax)

- 2.20 Troubleshotter. Swimming against the Tide. Former TCI chairman Sir John Harvey-Jones advises the family-run Morgan Motor Company, which wants to increase production (r)

3.00 Film: The Searchers (1956, b/w). CHOICE: John Ford's remarkable western largely abandons the optimistic populism of his earlier work and charts the bitter quest of Ethan Edwards (John Wayne), kidnapped by Comanche Indians after a raid on the Edwards ranch. The strength of the family group, evident in such Ford films as *The Grapes of Wrath* and *How Green Was My Valley*, has disappeared, leaving Edwards as an outsider. Ward Bond's priest offers some typical Fordian horse-play but there is less of it than usual and the film is a somber, uncomfortable film which refuses to offer neat solutions. The grandeur of Winton C. Hoch's photography is partly lost on the television screen but not the poignant Max Steiner score. The ending, simple but sparkling, compares with that of *The Third Man* in being one of the most effective images of rejection in the history of the cinema. (Ceefax)

- 5.00 Rugby Special. Highlights of Scotland v Argentina at Murrayfield and Bath v Harlequins. Wales: Rugby. Special Wales, Northern Ireland. Rugby Special Northern Ireland
- 6.00 Juke Box Jury. Jools Holland invites Trevor and Simon from *Gang Up*, Neil Campbell, Brian Travers and Helen Atkinson Wood to judge the week's latest pop releases
- 6.35 The Money Programme. Peter Jay talks to John Major about the country's economic prospects

- 7.15 The Trials of Life: Homemaking. Sir David Attenborough's series looks at the varied and ingenious ways in which animals secure a home for themselves, including the aggressive negotiations for property exchange between many of the birds, the air-conditioning system developed by prairie dogs. (Ceefax)

8.05 Not Only... But Also... (b/w). Vintage sitcom comedy from Peter Cook and Dudley Moore. With guest Alan Bates (Mr. Bates) and a new character, the Learning Machine. This edition of the series about post-war Japan examines the nation's system of education. In maths and science Japanese schoolchildren score highest in the world, holidays are short, school tests for six days a week, and 94 per cent of children stay at school until they are 18.

- 9.35 The Cenotaph. Highlights of this morning's parade and service in Whitehall
- 10.40 Film: Pennies from Heaven (1981). Dazzling Hollywood version of Dennis Potter's television series about the life and dreams of a street music salesman in the Thirties. Potter himself wrote the screenplay, transposing the story into an American setting, and the musical numbers (with the scores moving to old recordings) are superb. But the film completely misses the raw-edged quality of the original. Steve Martin plays the Bob Hoskins role, with Jessica Harper as the street-headed wife and Bernadette Peters as the teacher who falls from grace. Directed by Herbert Ross.
- 12.20am Deep End. A comedy about the world of dance with Normand 1.05 Rapido (r). Ends at 1.40

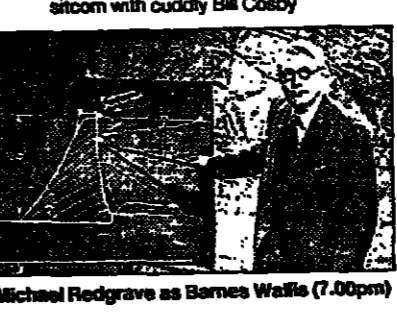
CHANNEL 4

- 6.00 Transworld Sport (r) 7.00 Gardeners' Calendar (r). (Teletext) 7.30 Good news on a Thursday (r) 8.00 Dennis. Cartoon 8.30 Bobobobs. Cartoon 9.00 Early Bird
- 9.25 Onemans Investigates Hong Kong's pollution
- 10.00 A Week in Politics - Second Reading. Includes Tony Blair's Rhodes Faysion, Tony Blair and Hilda Dwyer discussing the current developments within the Conservative party
- 10.45 Dennis. Cartoon 11.00 Owl TV (r). (Teletext) 11.30 Grim Tales. The story of The Fisherman and His Wife (r)
- 11.45 The Astrology Show 12.00 The Walters
- 1.00 Voyage to the Bottom of the Sea (b/w). Classic Sci-fi underwater series set in a submarine assigned to protect the world from marine menaces. Starring Richard Bessant (r) 1951
- 2.00 Film: Laughing in Paradise (1951, b/w). A few good choruses in this very British comedy about four people each left £50,000 by an eccentric relative - if they agree to carry out the various bizarre pranks he has planned for them. With Alastair Sim, Fay Compton, George Cole and Guy Middleton. Directed by Mario Zampi
- 3.50 Film: Dick Turpin - Highwayman (1955). The story of the highwayman is given glossy treatment in this Hammer production starring Philip Friend. David Paterson directs

- 4.15 Nat King Cole Show (b/w) 4.45 Answering Back. Mary Golding talks to Julian Ogilvie Thomson, chairman of the Anglo American Corporation, South Africa's biggest company

5.30 News summary and weather followed by Road to Avonlea. Episode seven

6.30 The Cosby Show. Cozy American sitcom with cuddly Bill Cosby



Michael Redgrave as Barnes Wallis (7.00pm)

- 7.00 Equinox: Patently Obvious? CHOICE: A documentary about patents opens with the sad story of the man who invented FM radio, spent a fruitless 15 years trying to protect his discovery in the courts and finally threw himself out of a 13th story window in New York. But the overall tone of the film is lighter, with a contribution from Dame Edna Everage and clips of Michael Redgrave, as the cinema's Barnes Wallis, thinking up the bouncing bomb. Useful exposition of the historical and legal background to patents serves as the framework for an examination of two celebrated cases. One involves the claim of a 12-year-old boy to have invented the sailboard, thus breaking the world monopoly of Windsurfer International. The other concerns the bitter, and still unresolved, legal battle over rival electrical patents for remote-control for women's legs. (Teletext)
- 8.00 American Football. The main game is Miami Dolphins at the New York Jets
- 9.30 The Media Show: Red, Hot and Blue - Ads and the Media. The test of the current series looks at the making of *Red, Hot and Blue*, a 90 minute extravaganza built around interpretations of Cole Porter songs, for World Ads Day
- 10.15 Film: Paper Moon (1973, b/w). Ryan O'Neal is a Thirties bubble salesman conning glibble widows in the American mid-west, whose routine is given fresh credibility when he joins forces with his eager nine-year-old daughter (Tatum O'Neal, who won an Oscar for her performance). Charm and good humour prevail, though the bleakness of the photography and setting seem out of keeping with the overall mood. Directed by Peter Bogdanovich
- 12.10am Film: Death in a French Garden (1985) starring Christopher Maltby and Nicole Garcia. A young man plunges unexpectedly into danger when he takes a job as a music teacher. Directed by Michael Dwyer. Film in French with English subtitles. Ends at 2.00

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ITV VARIATIONS

- ANGLIA  
As London except: 12.30pm-1.00 Farming Day 2.00 Members Only 2.25-2.55 The World of Golf 5.05 Highway to Heaven 6.00-6.30 Bulette 11.35 Prisoner. Call Block H 12.30am-1.00am The World of Golf 1.05-1.30am Prisoner. Call Block H 1.35-1.55am Prisoner. Call Block H 1.55-2.00am Prisoner. Call Block H 2.00-2.15am Prisoner. Call Block H 2.15-2.30am Prisoner. Call Block H 2.30-2.45am Prisoner. Call Block H 2.45-3.00am Prisoner. Call Block H 3.00-3.15am Prisoner. Call Block H 3.15-3.30am Prisoner. Call Block H 3.30-3.45am Prisoner. Call Block H 3.45-4.00am Prisoner. Call Block H 4.00-4.15am Prisoner. Call Block H 4.15-4.30am Prisoner. Call Block H 4.30-4.45am Prisoner. Call Block H 4.45-5.00am Prisoner. Call Block H 5.00-5.15am Prisoner. Call Block H 5.15-5.30am Prisoner. Call Block H 5.30-5.45am Prisoner. Call Block H 5.45-6.00am Prisoner. Call Block H 6.00-6.15am Prisoner. Call Block H 6.15-6.30am Prisoner. Call Block H 6.30-6.45am Prisoner. Call Block H 6.45-7.00am Prisoner. 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Call

# Jury fails to reach verdict in MP's case against Times

By ROBIN YOUNG

A HIGH Court jury failed yesterday to reach a verdict as to whether *The Times* had libelled the Labour MP for Hackney South and Shoreditch, Brian Sedgemore.

Mr Sedgemore had sued the newspaper over an article written by his former parliamentary colleague, Robert Kilroy-Silk, about the Salman Rushdie affair. He alleged that the article meant that he was a "craven hypocrite and a

moral and political coward who, contrary to his previously stated position, was prepared to support the extension of the law of blasphemy and the suppression of free speech" in the wake of the Rushdie affair.

*The Times* and Mr Kilroy-Silk claimed that the article was fair comment based on an early day motion signed by Mr Sedgemore which urged the Government to provide time to debate issues arising from *The Satanic Verses* controversy and draw attention to the need to reform the law of blasphemy to permit all religious faiths to seek legal redress or to repeal the law.

The jury of seven men and five women retired to consider their verdict at lunchtime yesterday, and returned to the court 2½ hours later to say that they had agreed unanimously that the article was defamatory and did constitute comment, but that they were unable to reach a unanimous verdict as to whether the comment was fair on the facts brought to their attention.

The judge, Mr Justice Michael Davies, instructed them to continue to attempt to reach a unanimous verdict but directed that if that was impossible he would accept a verdict agreed by a majority of at least 10-2. One hour and twenty-five minutes later the jury were called in to court again and the foreman was asked whether they had reached a verdict. He replied: "No".

The judge asked: "Are your problems or difficulties in any way due to lack of understanding of the law or the evidence, or anything on which I can advise you?"

The foreman said they were not, and when the judge asked whether there was any hope that they would reach a verdict given time today, the foreman said his honest opinion was that their differences were irreconcilable.

The judge said it was very sad, but appeared to be "a hopeless case". He discharged the jury from any further decision in the case.

Mr Justice Michael Davies, in his final case, agreed with Richard Hartley QC, representing *The Times* and Mr Kilroy-Silk, that the question of costs of the five-day trial would have to await the outcome of the retrial.

## Peers back single currency

Continued from page 1

language of progress, not the rhetoric of the battlefield. It is of paramount importance that the United Kingdom does not find itself in a second tier. If it is decided that member states should accept the single currency at different times, the United Kingdom must be in the first rank."

The economic costs and the effect on the City of London of remaining outside monetary union would be high.

The peers debated the "Euro-jargon" and phrases such as loss of sovereignty, frequently cited by Mrs Thatcher in arguing against EMU and concluded that the sovereignty argument was not a bar to pooling monetary policy.

Other members of the committee were: Lord Allen of Abbeydale (Ind); Lord Benson (Ind); Lord Bonham-Carter (Liberal Democrat); Lord Bridges (Ind); Lord Butterworth (C); Lady Elles (C); Lord Giddes (C); Lord Greenhill of Harrow (Ind); Lord Meston (Liberal Democrat); Lord Murray of Epping Forest (Lab); Lord Peto (Lab); Lady Robson of Kiddington (Liberal Democrat); Lord Thurlow (Ind); Viscount Torrington (C); and Lord Wilberforce (Ind).

House of Lords select committee on European Communities. 27th report. *Economic and Monetary Union and Political Union* (Stationery Office, £10.25)



Prayers at peace: Children from St James's Church of England School in Coldwaltham, West Sussex, at a prayer service yesterday in a clearing provided with a cross, symbolic mountain, well and altar as an outdoor venue for meditation and spiritual renewal. The "woodland church" has recently undergone

its own renewal after the devastating winter storms of recent years (Ruth Gledhill writes). The Rev Roger Hodgson, the vicar, said yesterday that the church, used for school assemblies and Sunday services, had now grown back to its former glory. The church expressed a new interpretation of the epistle of St

James in the New Testament, which he expounds in a book, *Introducing Via. The Most Rev Trevor Huddleston*, former Archbishop of the Indian Ocean, says in the foreword: "Any book which can help people think again about fundamentals of the Christian life in a new way is of real value."

# Israel strikes over border as Beirut army set for move

By OUR FOREIGN STAFF

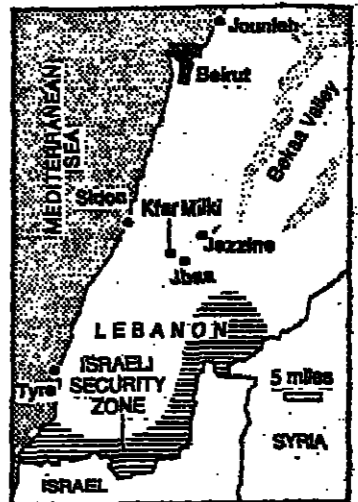
THE Israeli army yesterday launched a ground attack on Hezbollah targets north of Israel's self-declared "security zone" in southern Lebanon, just days before Lebanese army forces were to enter the area.

An Israeli spokesman said infantry and tanks, backed by artillery, attacked positions southwest of Jezzine, including Jnaa, Kfar Milki and Mazrat Ein Abu Suweir, under cover of darkness. Israeli forces took no casualties. Beirut reports said that the force comprised several hundred men and 40 tanks, and that artillery hit seven villages in the Iqlim Tufah area, causing heavy damage.

The raid came as the Lebanese army prepared plans to regain control of Beirut, ending 15 years of militia rule and division on religious lines, and a day after the Israeli defence minister, Moshe Arens, said that Israel would not allow the Lebanese government to regain control of Jezzine.

Military sources in Beirut said 8,000 troops in 20 armoured battalions would take over the city, while 1,200 Lebanese soldiers would move this week into southern Lebanon to halt fighting between rival Shia militias.

The force is said to want to deploy in key posts in the Tufah range near Israel's "security zone" according to an agreement signed in Damascus last week between the factions, Amal and Hezbollah.



In Beirut, the Lebanese defence minister, Albert Mansour, said the government of President Hrawi would not hesitate to call in Syrian military help if the army met resistance from Christian and Muslim militias in the capital.

Military sources said the troops would be stationed at key junctions and in the southern slums, hotbed of the Muslim fundamentalists and in the Ashraf-iyeh neighbourhood, headquarters of the Christian hardline militia, the Lebanese Forces. Deployment was set for dawn this morning.

Nabih Berri, head of the Amal militia, welcomed the deployment and told his men to leave the city and move all their weapons to southern Lebanon.

## MPs defiant over visits

Continued from page 1

their presence could help the Iraqi propaganda effort.

Speaking in the Commons on Thursday, Mr Hurd asked Mr Benn to reconsider. "If he goes, he is joining in a game where the aggressor dictates the rules and selected human beings are the pawns," he said. The Opposition also opposed the visit.

In a letter of reply, Mr Benn (Chesterfield) said he had considered the request but did not believe the policy of preparing for war against Iraq was supported by a majority. He asked for assistance from the British ambassadors in Amman and Baghdad, and said that it "might be helpful" if the embassies provided secretarial and communications assistance. He would report back "very fully" on his return, he said.

Denis Healey, the former Labour defence secretary, last night

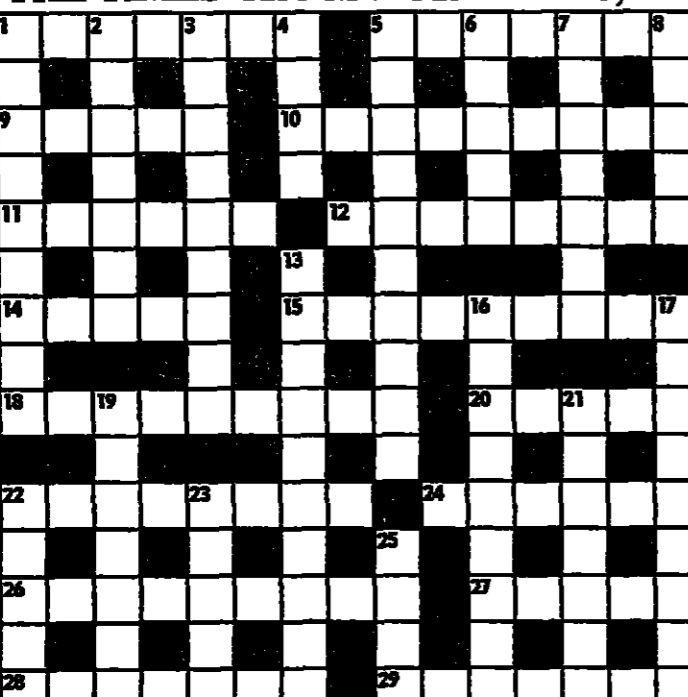
told the Apex union conference in Bournemouth that it would be wiser if Mr Benn did not go. "He certainly does not represent the Labour party," he said.

Whitehall sources said that it would be up to the ambassadors to decide how much help to give. A visiting MP would normally receive a briefing, but not necessarily from the ambassador.

Mr Benn said he would travel to Baghdad via Amman on November 18, returning to London on November 22.

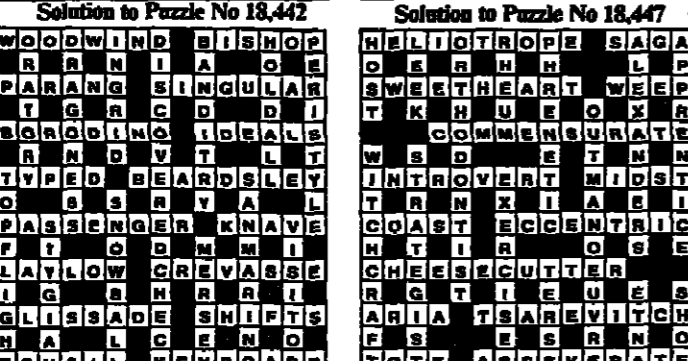
Mr Grant (Tottenham, north London) said he was approached by the Afro-Asian solidarity group, which is based in Egypt, to lead a delegation to Iraq. Denying his support for Mr Benn's visit, he added: "After the visits by Edward Heath and Willy Brandt, it is important that the left should send a representative to Baghdad."

## THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 18,448



- ACROSS**
- 20 serving girls inside a thingummy (7).
  - Kind of crossing made by Drake's ship originally (7).
  - Kid had a swing, by the sound of it (5).
  - A doorstep is more than one could reasonably expect (1,3,5).
  - Quietly communicate with advocate (6).
  - Disposing of pigs, does spread tales (8).
  - Children's writer almost turned into a playwright (5).
  - Ease smooth? Sounds rough (4,5).
  - Stars help tough to reform (3,6).
  - Manage to find a very small quantity (5).
  - Jack's dist? No right to it - he's not here (8).
  - Good number joining expedition (6).
  - Gradually assemble some food (9).
  - Starts housekeeping accounts - unfortunately, not that frequent (5).
  - Cunningly persuade minister to compete (7).
  - Offer for sale a lot of old glass (7).
- DOWN**
- Two-step in dancing academy (4,5).
  - In Shanghai-La they were smaller after a time (7).
  - Tin god first going up Alabama waterway (4,5).
  - Mouth actor's words the wrong way (4).
  - The pursuit of knowledge brings boy round girl (10).
  - A great number not working - after eating this? (5).
  - Ship's barber (7).
  - It's simple saying "No" to a child (5).
  - Life-guard - he's lost pounds - ruined - bust (10).
  - Turn in popular show - they receive half a laugh (3,3,3).
  - Rare spirit, possibly fiery (9).
  - Oriental festival, originally Nipponese (7).
  - Change a sailor for the "Listener" (7).
  - Has picked some lavender (5).
  - In EEC, strangely, one's part of a family - (5).
  - A group of countries that halves the restriction of trade (4).

Concise crossword, page 15



**PARKE DUOFOLD** A price of a superb Parker Duofold International Fountain Pen, with an 18 carat gold nib and fully guaranteed for the lifetime of the original owner will be given for the first five correct solutions opened next Thursday. Entries should be addressed to: *The Times Saturday Crossword Competition*, PO Box 480, Virginia Street, London E1 9DD. The winners and solution will be published next Saturday.

Name/Address

## WORD-WATCHING

A daily safari through the language jungle. Which of the possible definitions is correct?

By Philip Howard

MONTERA

a. A mountain path

b. A bullfighter's cap

c. A sex on travellers

STOOTH

a. Drought

b. A stockyard

c. Theft

DOOLIE

a. A giant idiot

b. A palaeontologist

c. To fritter time away

TATH

a. Cattle dung

b. A running position

c. Teeth in a series

Answers on page 15

## TIMES WEATHERCALL

For the latest region by region forecast, 24 hours a day, dial 0888 500 followed by the appropriate code.

Greater London	701
Kent, Surrey, Sussex	702
Dorset, Dorchester & IOW	703
Devon & Cornwall	704
Wiltshire, Gloucestershire, Somerset	705
Berkshire, Bucks, Oxford	706
Bedfordshire & Essex	707
Northampton, Cambs	708
West Midlands & Shropshire & Warwick	709
Shropshire, Hereford & Worcester	710
Greater London	711
East Midlands	712
Lincoln & Humberside	713
Dyfed & Powys	714
Gloucestershire & Cheltenham	715
N.W. England	716
W & S Yorks & Dales	717
N.E. England	718
Cumbria & Lake District	719
S.W. Scotland	720
W. Central Scotland	721
Edinburgh, Lothian & Borders	722
E. Central Scotland	723
Grampian & E. Highlands	724
N.W. Scotland	725
Cumbria, Orkney & Shetland	726
N. Ireland	727

Weathercall is charged at 33p per minute (cheap rates) and 44p per minute at all other times.

## AA ROADWATCH

For the latest AA traffic and roadworks information, 24 hours a day, dial 0836 401 followed by the appropriate code.

London & SE traffic, roadworks	731
C. London (within N & S Circles)	732
M-ways/roads M1-Dartford T.	733
M-ways/roads Dartford T.-M25	734
M-ways/roads M25-M4	735
M25 London Orbital only	736

National traffic and roadworks

National motorways	737
West Country	738
Wales	739
Midlands	740
East Anglia	741
North-west England	742
North-east England	743
Scotland	744
Northern Ireland	745

AA Roadwatch is charged at 33p per minute (cheap rates) and 44p per minute at all other times.

The winners of last Saturday's competition are: Prof D E Nineham, 4 Wootton Drive, Ilford, Essex; M J Milford, 6 Linden Cottage, Whitworth Hill, Goring, Hants; South Oxon; K Mitchell, 6 Bayons Ave, Oxon; S K Mitchell, 6 Bayons Ave, Oxon; S K Mitchell, 6 Bayons Ave, Oxon; S K Mitchell, 6 Bayons Ave, Oxon.

## WEATHER

Much of the British Isles will have a cloudy day with outbreaks of rain. In the north and west the rain might be heavy and prolonged. For the southeast, though, the rain should be mostly light, but the odd heavier burst cannot be ruled out. Later in the day, the rain will turn more showery with many western parts becoming dry. The southwest might see a little brightness. Outlook: unsettled with more rain.

### ABROAD

Area	C	F	Area	C	F
Algeria	17	63	Malta	21	70
Algeria	17	63	Malta	21	70
Algeria	17	63	Malta	21	70
Algeria	17	63	Malta	21	70
Algeria	17	63	Malta	21	70
Algeria	17	63	Malta	21	70
Algeria	17	63	Malta	21	70
Algeria	17	63	Malta	21	70
Algeria	17	63	Malta	21	70
Algeria	17	63	Malta	21	70

### AROUND BRITAIN

Area	Sun	Rain	C	F
Aberdeen	8.5	17	57	sun
Angus	4.8	9	48	sun
Armagh	5.9	10	50	sun
Belfast	5.9	10	50	sun
Birmingham	2.6	36	48	sun
Bournemouth	6.8	9	48	sun
Bournemouth	6.8	9	48	sun
Bournemouth	6.8	9	48	sun
Bournemouth	6.8	9	48	sun
Bournemouth	6.8	9	48	sun

### TOWER BRIDGE

Tower Bridge will be closed at the following times today: 1.15pm, 1.45pm, 2.15pm, 2.45pm, 3.15pm, 3.45pm, 4.15pm, 4.45pm, 5.15pm, 5.45pm, 6.15pm, 6.45pm, 7.15pm, 7.45pm, 8.15pm, 8.45pm, 9.15pm, 9.45pm, 10.15pm, 10.45pm, 11.15pm, 11.45pm, 12.15pm, 12.45pm, 1.15pm, 1.45pm, 2.15pm, 2.45pm, 3.15pm, 3.45pm, 4.15pm, 4.45pm, 5.15pm, 5.45pm, 6.15pm, 6.45pm, 7.15pm, 7.45pm, 8.15pm, 8.45pm, 9.15pm, 9.45pm, 10.15pm, 10.45pm, 11.15pm, 11.45pm, 12.15pm, 12.45pm.

### LIGHTING UP TIME

TODAY: London 4.19pm to 7.11pm, Bristol 4.20pm to 7.21pm, Edinburgh 4.16pm to 7.10pm, Manchester 4.20pm to 7.27pm, Newcastle 4.16pm to 7.27pm, Portsmouth 4.16pm to 7.27pm.

### HIGH TIDES

Area	AM	HT	PM	HT
London Bridge	7.03	6.1	7.45	6.3
Aberdeen	7.33	3.6	7.40	3.7
Aberdeen	7.33	3.6	7.40	3.7
Aberdeen	7.33	3.6	7.40	3.7
Aberdeen	7.33	3.6	7.40	3.7
Aberdeen	7.33	3.6	7.40	3.7
Aberdeen	7.33	3.6	7.40	3.7
Aberdeen	7.33	3.6	7.40	3.7
Aberdeen	7.33	3.6	7.40	3.7
Aberdeen	7.33	3.6	7.40	3.7

### YESTERDAY

Temperatures at midday yesterday: c, cloud; f, fair; r, rain; s, sun.

Belfast 8.40c, Glasgow 11.20c, Manchester 11.20c, Newcastle 11.20c, Portsmouth 11.20c, Southampton 11.20c, Swansea 11.20c, Tyneside 11.20c, Wrexham 11.20c.

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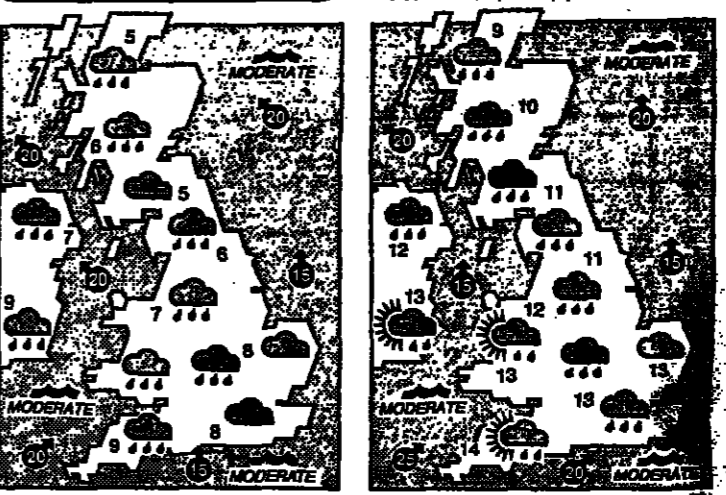
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Name

SPORT 27-33  
BUSINESS AND FINANCE 34-39  
WEEKEND MONEY 44-44

SUMMARY

Probyn is cleared



THE Rugby Football Union announced yesterday that no further disciplinary action was required over Jeff Probyn (above), the England prop who was the subject of an enquiry after a stamping incident during the international against Argentina at Twickenham last weekend.

In the same incident Federico Méndez, the Argentine prop, was sent off for punching, though it was claimed afterwards that he had been provoked. In clearing Probyn, the RFU warned of the risk of drawing the wrong conclusions from television. Page 31

FOOTBALL

Young hopes

WHERE will the next generation of England players come from? What purpose, if any, does the under-21 team serve? Clive White examines the role of the junior team and assesses its likely importance to the plans of Graham Taylor, the England manager. Page 29

SNOOKER

Pocket money



ALLISON Fisher (above), pursues a third women's world championship and a cheque for £10,000 at the Waldorf Hotel, London, this weekend. She plays Karen Corr, who recently beat Fisher in the British championship, for a place in the final tomorrow. Page 31

TENNIS

Out of court

BAD luck continues to disrupt the Diet Pepsi challenge tournament at Wembley this week. Yesterday, the No. 2 seed, Goran Ivanisevic, of Yugoslavia, pulled out of his quarter-final with influenza. His withdrawal follows that of Pete Sampras, the US Open champion and No. 1 seed, with shin splints. Page 28

RUGBY LEAGUE

Waiting game



ELLERY Hanley (above) and his team go into the second international at Old Trafford today seeking to become the first Great Britain side to win a series against Australia for 20 years. The performance which brought a 19-12 victory at Wembley two weeks ago provided grounds for optimism but the Australians can be expected to offer stern resistance. Page 30

RACING

Bad break

PETER Scudamore, the reigning National Hunt champion jockey, broke his left leg when Black Honour, trained by Charlie Brooks, fell at Market Rasen yesterday. Earlier, Scudamore had ridden two winners at the meeting. Massingham and Invasion, on whom he deputised for Mark Dwyer, who had been taken to hospital with injuries after a fall. Page 32

Gascoigne gives Taylor a dilemma to resolve

By DAVID MILLER

WHAT should Graham Taylor do with Paul Gascoigne? It is a question that must be smouldering in his mind as he plans his formation to meet the Republic of Ireland in a European championship qualifying tie in Dublin on Wednesday. Would it make sense, in the circumstances, he must be wondering, to drop him?

That is not quite as daft as it may at first appear, concerning a player not erroneously dubbed by the former England manager, as daft as a brush. Gascoigne, darling of the terraces though he may be, is somewhat slow in growing up, and I am not talking about his actions off the field in many directions, which are undoubtedly a drain on his energy.

The harsh fact, recognised by anyone who has watched Gascoigne this season and understands the game, is that he is not relating his play to the rest of the team, whether it is Tottenham Hotspur or England. He may be an outstanding player and the leading goalscorer for his club, but this makes the issue all the more frustrating.

In the opening European tie at home to Poland last month, which England ultimately won comfortably enough, Taylor was of the opinion that England played with 10 men. The missing man was Gascoigne, who was on the pitch, sure enough, but was absent from the heart of the tactical battle. It left Taylor worried.

With Tottenham, Gascoigne's preoccupation with his own intentions, as opposed to the team's at times, have sent Lineker up the metaphorical wall. George Best may have done the same to Bobby Charlton at Old Trafford, but Best was himself the forward par excellence.

Gascoigne runs this way, he runs that. And the ball never comes for Lineker. Gascoigne is off on some private excursion, rousing the terraces but too often not allowing his colleagues to join him on the trip.

I saw it happen against Nottingham Forest, where, after 15 minutes of juggling and exhibition stunts, Gascoigne disappeared for 20 minutes. Taylor knows that he cannot afford such a passenger, however talented potentially, against the Republic next Wednesday, in what will be in his description "a typical English cup tie".

Taylor, I suspect, is confronted with an awkward dilemma: that agonising kind of choice facing the international manager who has one match every two or three months rather than one a week, when you can correct in training on Monday what was wrong on Saturday.

Does Taylor, on the one hand, include Gascoigne and risk the possibility that he will be a sleeping partner in the critical balance of the opposition's midfield, where lies the secret of so much of the Republic's success under Jack Charlton; or that he will be provoked into losing his temper, an occurrence regularly close to the surface?

On the other hand, does he leave him out, and risk the wrath, scorn and ridicule of the tabloid press, the hysteria of which tends to diminish rather than enhance the establishment of the successful team for which they — for which we all — continually clamour?



A word in his ear: Taylor takes Gascoigne aside for advice on where he is going wrong for England

Taylor will hardly relish the prospect of being called a "blind-folded wally" before the match and then, if England should lose without Gascoigne, being condemned as an ignorant idiot afterwards. It is common knowledge that the tabloid press go for headlines first and logic last.

Yet the logic is there. The Republic set out from the start of any match to stop the other team's midfield from operating, to force the opposition to attack from so far away that it cannot hurt their suspect defence. Look at what they did to Hagi in the World Cup defeat of Romania, and nearly did to Italy in the quarter-final.

The problem with Gascoigne is that with his lack of speed he can be put out of the game, and that will be Ireland's intention: during

a match, which in all probability, will be as inelegant as that awful encounter in Cagliari... where Townsend smothered Gascoigne. Taylor wants to avoid a similar stranglehold this time.

A successful manager has to be pragmatic and, when necessary, hard-headed. Ramsey left out Greaves, though he had the excuse of an injury. Winterbottom, who had something of a fixation about the indispensable quality of Haynes in midfield, would never leave him out; and there were days when Haynes, particularly in a 4-2-4 formation, was shut out of a match or simply failed to pull his weight, as in England's opening defeat by Hungary in the 1962 World Cup finals in Chile.

To the exasperation of many spectators — but not this one —

Greenwood and then Bobby Robson tended to exclude Hoddle, marvellous manipulator of the ball but a poor competitor.

Gascoigne is not a poor competitor in the sense that he gives up. His surging run in extra time that forced the despairing foul by Gerets, of Belgium, and produced the free-kick that won the match, was one of the finest memories of the World Cup. Gascoigne's other problem, besides lack of speed, is that, brush-daft, he has no concentration.

I would not want Taylor's dilemma over the next 48 hours, but that is one of the reasons he is paid so well. I suspect he will play safe with the public, rather than with the tactics. I hope Gascoigne does not let him down.

Sorry England count cost of Gooch decision

From ALAN LEE, CRICKET CORRESPONDENT, ADELAIDE

AN UNACCOUNTABLE decision was compounded by an unacceptable performance here yesterday and, consequently, England released still further from the health they would wish to be in as the Ashes series looms.

In these early weeks of the tour, when the opportunities to discover form and rhythm are barely adequate, winning the toss at the Adelaide Oval seemed happily providential. Choosing to bowl first seemed, in the circumstances, either curiously cautious or crazily charitable.

Eight years ago, on this same ground, Bob Willis allowed his own baseness to persuade him that he should insert Australia. It was a catastrophic decision which cost England the match and, ultimately, the series, and Willis has never forgiven himself. Graham Gooch's insertion yesterday does not have quite the same scope for disaster, but it has handed over the initiative in a match England needed to control.

South Australia did not spurn the invitation and nor, on the usual, easy-paced pitch here, were they likely to. By the close of the first day, they were 316 for three and heading for the sort of total which will ensure that the only way England can get two innings in this game is by following on. As the priority has to be to improve the shaky form of the top-order batting, this is not the ideal scenario.

The thinking of Gooch and his inner circle was apparently that the Adelaide pitch does not deteriorate and only offers the faster bowlers any help on the first morning. A thin motive for a rash act.

Gooch knew, before the day was very old, that he would not be vindicated by his bowlers. Of the three chosen seamers, only Malcolm offered any menace to the batsmen. Lewis could not control his line nor Bicknell his length.

Up to lunch, England looked a moderate outfit. In the afternoon session, they did not look that good. Indeed, it was only when the second new ball was taken, half an hour before stumps, that a record-breaking second-wicket partnership was curtailed at a cost of 275 and Bicknell and Lewis began to show the quality which brought them here.

Gooch was even obliged to take what he regards as the last resort and bowl himself after tea. It is inconceivable that, by then, he was either sanguine about his decision on the toss or satisfied with his team's output, both with the ball and in the field.

England's captain has been offered many opportunities this week to excuse his team's shortcomings with the truism that tours invariably have early hiccups. To his credit, he has refused. "It's easy to say that but it gets us nowhere," he insists. "We only have a certain amount of time to get things right and we have to make the best use of it."

On a two-sweater day — grey, blustery and about as inviting as Northampton in April — standing in the field for six hours while Bishop and Nobes broke a 68-year-old record for the biggest South Australian stand against England, was not time usefully employed.

They came together in the eleven over, after Malcolm had surprised Hilditch the state's new captain, with a ball which lifted above stump height. Soon, the tall, correct Bishop and his squat, unorthodox partner were being nourished by a wayward spell from Bicknell, who strained visibly for extra speed and suffered the penalty.

Bishop should have been run out when 37, but the pick-up and throw from Larkins at square-leg were scruffy. After lunch Atherton, put down two catches at first slip, though one was from a no-ball, and England plainly still have as many problems in this department as elsewhere.

Hemmings, charged with doing no more than contain, applied a partially effective brake, but 102 runs still came in the session and, as evening approached, the taking of a second wicket seemed a remote ambition.

The eleventh century of Bishop's career was also his fifth against touring teams Nobes, aged 26, comfortably the youngest batsman in the state's side, was completing only his second century in a first-class career of three seasons. He had been batting almost five hours when his confidence got the better of him and an extravagant drive to Bicknell's second delivery with the new ball was edged to Russell.

The advent of Hookes, who made 195 against Queensland a week ago, did not hold the promise of better times for England, but Lewis, moving the ball sharply, removed him with the final ball of the day. Gooch's catch at second slip was no mean effort for one whose hands must by now have been freezing and whose mind may understandably have been focused on the frustrations of a day which might have been made for his own batting purpose.

SCOREBOARD

**SOUTH AUSTRALIA** First innings  
A M J Hilditch c Lewis b Malcolm 14  
G A Bishop not out 148  
P Nobes c Russell b Bicknell 131  
D W Hookes c Gooch b Lewis 6  
Extras (b 14, nb 5) 19  
Total (3 wickets) 316

**TW B Phillips**, P R Sleep J Scudamore T Nielsen, T B A May C Miles D Hockey

**FALL OF WICKETS** 1-23 2-296 3-316

**BOWLING** Malcolm 20-278 1, Lewis 22-5-173-1 (nb 5), Bicknell 18-270 1, Hemmings 21-64-0, Gooch 9-20-0, Atherton 4-0-13-0

**ENGLAND XI:** G A Gooch M A Atherton W Larkins, D I Gower J E Morris A J Stewart, C C Lewis, P R Sleep M P Bicknell, E E Hemmings, D E Russell

Yoonis inspires Pakistan, page 32

Spectacular success on the slopes

SIMON BARNES ON SATURDAY

The new-fangled horsehair brooms just aren't the same as the old corn brooms. (Why was the change made? I'm nonplussed). Rod Hunter, the media relations director for the northern Alberta association, summed it up for us all. "The corn broom itself lends not only the spectacle of both the noise and visual effect of two good sweepers sweeping. It also — as some people don't like — deposits a certain amount of debris on the ice, which makes the ice swingier. With swingy ice, you get more exciting games." But the cost, the cost: a horsehair broom costs \$39 and can last a lifetime; a corn broom costs \$24, but, in the hands of a truly dynamic sweeper, will only last a couple of games. And the old corn brooms just aren't as easy to cheat with as the new ones. Brad Hannah, an Edmonton curler and a confirmed corn-broomer, said: "There's so much controversy over rules of using those dang brooms. With all the cash up for grabs, the rules have been bent."

Democracy triumphs

Racing is not the world's most democratic sport, but I suppose this is democracy of a sort. The stewards were disinterested with the running of one of the Queen's horses and levied £600 worth of fine. The beast in question, Chestnut Tree,

was in breach of rule 151, failing to "run on its merits". The men who had to cough up were William Hastings-Bass, one of the Queen's principal trainers, a man who recently inherited the title Earl of Huntingdon, and the jockey, Dale Gibson. They were hit with £300 each for their unseemly handling of Her Majesty's property.

Meanwhile, my racing snout, a man who seems to have lived recent months in a state of aestivation, has roused himself with the commencement of serious jump-racing. He rather fancies a beast called New Haven for the Hennessy Gold Cup today.

Borg proves a point

The comeback of Bjorn Borg continues — at a pace of the old champion's choosing, and with the weapons he prefers. None of those fancy modern graphite rackets for him. He is practising hard with his old wooden exalibur. He tried the space-age stuff in exhibitions a few years back, but couldn't get on with them. The bats with which Pete Sampras serves at 125mph are not for him. "Bjorn told me he lost control on the third or fourth stroke in a rally," Percy Rosberg, who was Borg's first coach, said. Borg himself said: "I tested other rackets, but I feel at ease with my old one." Many players claim it is impossible to play top-class tennis with a wooden racket nowadays. "I know it's possible," Borg said. He retired at 26, is now 34, and denies that he needs the money. "When I retired, I was not putting in 100 per cent every match," he said. "Now, mentally, I feel strong

for tennis and I want to put my mind back into it. I want to play in my mind and my mind was always my strength."

Wide of the mark

Don Wilson retires as head coach of the MCC in a fortnight. Looking back over the various ground-staff boys who have worked with him, he recalled one lad who was with him for six months in 1977. "I thought he couldn't bowl," Wilson said. There are few more respected coaches than Wilson. The lad, of course, was I. T. Botham. "What a mistake," Wilson mused.

Camels come of age

Has camel racing come of age? Last weekend saw what is believed to be the first full camel racing championships held in Africa, or perhaps in the world. This was the Maralal International Camel Derby, which was held in the semi-arid north-eastern province of Kenya. It brought in riders from Britain, the United States, Germany and Australia, though quite what most of these countries have to do with camels eludes me. More than 70 riders took part. The long-term aim is to increase the racing distance, so that races take place over 1,000km — a more accurate reflection of a camel's genuine abilities than a quick gimmicky sprint. I have a notion: let us ban the intrusive and lethal Paris-Dakar rally, and replace it with a camel marathon. This is the column that supports camels.

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# Time has come to blow whistle on drugs

The drugs problem has again raised its ugly head. Just when you might have thought it was safe once more to talk about the noble art of track and field, two leading athletes were caught by the testers and are now banned for two years.

This comes after one of the finest European championships, in Split, for many years. Their quality may have had much to do with the crackdown on drugs in the last two years. We take one step forward, and then another one back.

It is fair to say that many of us had long suspected that, beneath the surface, there were problems in American athletics at distances up to 400 metres. Carl Lewis's recent comments (in and out of his book) seem to have been supported by events. I suppose you have also to say that we can now understand the ups and downs in Harry "Butch" Reynolds's form. In the case of Randy Barnes, the shot putter, we are transported

back to the days when the public believed that all the putters were on drugs anyway. No doubt those old suspicions will resurface, affecting everyone doing the event and that will be an extra and unfair pressure on many good and responsible athletes.

What do these two new cases mean, for the sport? What is the "state of play"?

I do not know the details of these cases, so I cannot make definitive comment, but I look back to 1987 and my report on the misuse of drugs with the then minister, Colin Moynihan.

Our report led to random and independent testing and to greater stringency all round. But, of course, a heavy responsibility rests, as ever, with the sportsmen and women themselves, as well as with their managers and advisers (and, I would say, their family and close friends)—and, of course, the administrators of the sport.

It is two Americans who have been caught, so some may argue



## COMMENT

SEBASTIAN COE

that it is only the United States officials who have an inquiry to run. Historically, the United States was slow into this vital field of drug testing.

In 1984, when Los Angeles was preparing for the Olympic Games, there was both pressure and embarrassment between the United States and Lausanne because the Americans did not have a single accredited testing centre.

However, can we dismiss this fresh outbreak as just a little local, American, difficulty?

I doubt it. That doubt may make unpopular with British officials, and others in the international federations, but modern

sport at the top is a global village. Figures of the stature of Reynolds and Barnes have friends and "colleagues" everywhere, because they travel extensively, particularly in Europe. It seems unlikely that there are only two offenders in the sport and they both just happen to be American.

I hope nobody will make that too-comfortable assumption, either here, or elsewhere. Investigations ought to be general. They should also be thorough.

The problem with drugs in sport is two-fold. First, they can affect performance—at least, in the short term. They are to cheats in sport what the marked card is to the crooked poker player. Second, they can be hard to trace and

detect. The unscrupulous can take careful precautions and thus evade suspicion, perhaps for a long time.

When I was competing, rumour was part of the conversation at the track, in the hotels, and so on.

Athletes are not stupid. They quickly notice abnormal physical changes in another athlete from one season to another. Suddenly, "X" has shoulders that would carry him or her through five rounds with Marvin Hagler. If you are as close as athletes get to each other in training, or especially in competition, you are not likely to miss changes of that kind. The public may not retain the same images from six months earlier, or at least not as sharply.

Sometimes, such changes may be the butt of jokes or there may just be a discreet silence. But one athlete will not "shop" another. In any case, in such a serious matter, we all know that hard evidence is needed.

When such physical changes have happened, they have usually escaped comment from television commentators, or journalists—who may not hesitate to point out other alterations in a person's appearance, for example, in hairstyle or clothing.

If drug abuse is still happening in British and European sport—and these comments cannot be just about athletics—then what can we do?

The solutions lie in administrative action and also in attitude.

The penalties have to fit the crime: cheats cannot prosper—and that includes competition two years later. I remain in favour of lifetime bans because the drug user has, in my view, offended the spirit and nature of sporting competition. He or she has irrevocably let down himself, or herself, club and country, friends and family and the sport and its traditions.

It is not just the ban. The records have also to be changed. We learn that Reynolds and Barnes will retain their world record status. That is surely the wrong decision and one which, on all the other competitors in these events.

Second, administrators must give the testing regimes the right authority, priority and resources.

Yet, probably, attitude is the major issue. Sport, from the top to the bottom, has to demand that drugs and drug users are beyond the pale. We all have to make sure, very plain to everybody, so I'm not talking about a "soft" target, because that would be irresponsible, but perhaps there has to be some form of "zero-tolerance" enquiry whenever there are grounds for suspicion.

Perhaps competition now as has to start to "blow the whistle" on this particularly offensive form of cheating.

## Italian player, ranked No. 200 in world, turns his year around

# Ivanisevic succumbs to flu and adds to Wembley's woes

By ANDREW LONGMORE, TENNIS CORRESPONDENT

AFTER losing their top two seeds through injury in the space of a day, few would blame the organisers of the Diet Pepsi Challenge if they left Wembley and never came back. Yesterday, following the departure of Pete Sampras with sore shins, Goran Ivanisevic retired from his quarter-final with Jakob Hlasek after five games. Dispatches from the Wembley Arena are beginning to read like medical bulletins.

Ivanisevic, of Yugoslavia, had apparently been suffering from flu and had only barely managed to complete his second-round match against Nicklas Kulti, in which he was notably off colour in tone and temper, because he was winning.

Hlasek was a different proposition and, having lost four of the first five games, Ivanisevic shook hands and walked away, giving up the chance of qualifying for merit for the eight-man ATP Tour finals in Frankfurt next week as he did so. To make sure of qualifying, Ivanisevic, ranked ninth in the world, had to win the tournament.

"I did not know that," he said afterwards. "I was feeling very bad in the previous match, but I won the first set and got an early break, so I said, 'OK, I'll try and play.' Today it was impossible. I felt dizzy and shaky and I didn't get to sleep until seven o'clock in the morning. In practice, I saw three balls. I was seeing everything double."

It was clear from the first game that all was not well with Ivanisevic. He looked sluggish. Hlasek noticed it too. "He seemed not to be trying 100 per cent and I thought he hadn't really practised this

morning. I thought he was just tired. I have to admit I'm happy," Hlasek said.

Ivanisevic will have to sweat a little more before knowing whether he will get into the ATP Tour finals. First, he has to get fit himself; second, he has to wait for the verdict on Boris Becker's strained thighs and Sampras's sore shins.

Reports said that Becker felt worse than ever yesterday, but hoped to be able to practise today for the first time since pulling out of the finals of the Paris Open last weekend.

As the casualty list lengthened, there was at least one reported case of ecstasy. Before this tournament, Diego Nargiso, a qualifier and a former doubles partner of Ivanisevic, had not won a match on the ATP Tour since reaching the second round of the Italian Open in May. He came to London intent on playing qualifying and picking up some loose change in doubles.

Because of a mix-up, Nargiso did not enter the doubles and was jokingly told by Vittorio Selmi, the ATP Tour manager, that he would have to play well in singles. Yesterday, he beat Magnus Larsson 6-3, 3-6, 6-3 to reach his first big semi-final and record his sixth victory in as many days.

"It's an unbelievable feeling," said the Italian Davis Cup player. "I had just touched 200, my lowest ranking ever, and I was very sad because I was playing well and losing. But in this game your whole world can change in a week."

Like Ivanisevic, the Italian is one of the more fiery

characters on the circuit. He was once credited with climbing up the umpire's chair to argue with a decision and was dropped by Gunther Bosch, Becker's first coach, because he was too temperamental. Nargiso, who had saved three match points in the third round, squandered three of his own before leaping to put away a forehand volley and average two recent defeats by Larsson, the last in the final of a challenger in Ljubljana.

Nargiso's delight could not disguise the diminishing prestige of an event which has numbered Bjorn Borg, John McEnroe and Ivan Lendl among its winners. With attendances described as "disappointing" by the tournament director, Michael Campbell, of ProServ, the time might have come for a change of venue, and possibly even city.

The early retirement of the two top seeds could have sealed the end of Wembley's long association with professional tennis and, just possibly, Diet Pepsi's rather shorter one. Bupa and Boots the Chemist were among the flippant suggestions for a replacement sponsor.

RESULTS: Quarter-finals: Hlasek (Slo) beat Ivanisevic (Yug), 4-1; Nargiso (It) beat Larsson (Swe), 6-3, 3-6, 6-3.

● The appeal by Andrew Castle against the £2,400 fine imposed on him by the LTA will be heard by a three-man disciplinary committee consisting of a member of the LTA council, a member of the ATP and an independent arbitrator. Castle was fined for producing an anti-poll tax placard during the finals of the national championships at Telford last Sunday.



Surprise visitor: Nargiso, of Italy, on his way to his sixth successive Wembley win

## ICE SKATING

### Soviets to forego Olympics

By MICHAEL COLEMAN

THOSE mesmeric Soviet pair skaters, Yekaterina Gordeeva and Sergei Grinkov, have sacrificed a certain chance of winning a second Olympic title by deciding to take part in the world professional championships in Washington DC and Barcelona next month.

The sport is supposed now to be open but events outside the control of the ruling International Skating Union are still off-limits. Especially those run by Dick Button, and his company, Candid Productions, of New York.

Relations between the ISU hierarchy and Button, an American, have been sour for some time. Gordieva and Grinkov, favourites for the Albertville gold and that at the next Winter Games in 1994, will also miss the amateur worlds at Munich in March.

Button, the world men's champion for five consecutive years from 1947, has never forgiven the ISU for denying him the sport's biggest award, the Jacques Favart Trophy, the last recipient of which was Katarina Witt. His own championships, sponsored by NutraSweet, boast \$500,000 prize money over two legs in Washington on December 8 and in Barcelona six days later.

Button has also lured another top Soviet pair, Larisa Selezneva and Oleg Makarov, the European champions in 1989. They will join a string of former world and Olympic champions, the Leningraders, Yelena Valova and Oleg Vassilyev, also contest the pairs alongside the Canadians, Barbara Underhill and Paul Martin, Jayne Torvill and Christopher Dean are in the dance, the two Britons, Boliano and Orser, take on Robin Cousins, while Liz Manley, Debbie Thomas, Roslynn Sumners and Denise Biellmann make up the women's field. Small wonder the ISU feels nervous.

## Last stretch proves hardest of all to take on board

THESE can be few landfalls as stunning and awe-inspiring as South Africa's Cape; however, after almost seven weeks at sea since leaving Newport, Rhode Island, I closed on the coast with small measure of trepidation.

With no Satnav and heavily overcast skies, my position was based on a two-day-old starfix. Lucky I smiled on me, though, and with 80 miles to go, clearing skies granted me a noon sunfix. The Benguela Current, stronger than projected, had pushed me ten miles further north than I had guessed but now I knew where I was, where I was going and at eight-and-a-half knots, calculated an estimated time of arrival of midnight.

The last two weeks of this first leg have been made especially difficult by gear failure. Within a 30-hour period, all of my autopilots failed, forcing me to hand-steer and use the wind vane self-steering equipment. The vane is a life-saver but cannot cope with the boat fully powered up; the sail area is reduced accordingly.

I had made good progress on the long, hard beat down the South Atlantic and was within 40 miles of the two boats ahead of me in Class 2. We had reached the southwest corner of the dominating high pressure anticyclone, my trusty sextant towards Cape Town. The loss of the pilots then cost me 15 to 20 miles per day. In an effort to maintain a strong breeze, I dipped down to 37° South but even there I was becalmed for eight hours. Two days after the pilot failure, the head gasket on the generator blew, depriving me of my main power source. No more radio work, and strict electricity rationing was imposed with flashlight rigged in all the strategic places.

The wind soon reminded me of my southernly latitude, though, as a cold front swept through and a steady 30 knots of southwest wind filled in, making for rapid progress east-

ward. The South Atlantic high had caused us all problems forcing us to stay on the western side of the ocean to avoid its engulfing calms. Those who attempted to beat east too early suffered badly, four of the 60-footers sat almost motionless for six days. The overall race for them is now academic.

Servant 4, the French 50-footer, showed her true form in the second half of this leg and finished while I still had 600 miles to go. Sponsor Wanted crept further ahead each day, her lead reinforced when she completed the last 200 miles in a day while I sat becalmed 150 miles behind. This doubled his lead on me immediately.

The last 100 miles are always the longest and as darkness fell on my last night at sea, I busied my mind with reflections on the leg. High point: lying second in class for two days. Low point: autopilots strewn on the cabin floor in pieces. Most used equipment: my trusty sextant.

Most loved but most unused equipment: my sleeping bag. I treated myself to a treacle sponge pudding with custard and watched a glorious full moon rising ahead of me. Once it had risen sufficiently, I took a sight on it that gave me a position line some 30 miles from the coast. The Cape light-house flashed way down to leeward. I was getting close. The Cape conjures images of stormy seas and treacherous cliffs. I felt lucky to have such fair weather for my approach.

With 27 miles to go, I spotted a bead of light on the horizon—land ho! The silhouette of Table Mountain loomed magnifi-

cantly in the moonlight and within an hour or so I was able to see the light at Greenpoint—the finish line. I called the race office on the VHF radio and confidently predicted my arrival at midnight. With five miles to go, the wind died completely and it took three frustrating hours to do those final miles. Across the line a dozen helping hands swarmed aboard, sorted the sails, rigged a towline and hoisted my wife, Laura, aboard.

Dawn broke the eastern sky as we were towed into the vast dock complex and Cape Town looked majestic, the cloth pouring from Table Mountain behind this jewel of a city. Champagne and fireworks greeted us at the dockside and the euphoria of arrival tasted sweet as did the bacon and egg breakfast that awaited.

With much gear needing attention it is going to be a busy three weeks here, but that is probably a blessing. Too much time to contemplate the next leg would be, I am sure, unhealthy. The southern ocean—high winds, high seas and icebergs to boot. Better to be busy and there is a lot to do.

The finances for this project have always been more than tight and while I have been at sea the arduous task of raising cash has fallen on my family at home. They have managed to raise about £700 in donations from Ipswich companies, individuals and schools and this will just about cover the repair costs here. Some school children have even sent their pocket money as a donation.

The hospitality and help here in Cape Town has been incredible. With few international sporting events occurring here, the BOC race is being followed by the media and public alike. The beauty of this place makes its problems even more of a tragedy.

## ROWING

### Larkin in leading quad scull

By MIKE ROSEWELL, ROWING CORRESPONDENT

THE Fuller's Head of the River Fours will be held over the four-and-a-quarter-mile Mordaunt to Putney course today, at 10am. The event has again been massively over-subscribed and the maximum permitted number of entries of 400 was achieved several days before the official closing date.

Leander, the winners last year, have relinquished their No. 1 starting position because many of their leading rowers have only recently returned from the world championships in Tasmania. Nottingham County, perennial winners before 1989, will lead off in a quad scull with the national champion, Simon Larkin, on board.

The second Nottingham quad, starting eleventh, is expected to include four members of the Nottingham County lightweight eight which won a bronze medal in Tasmania, assuming that the coach, Ray Sims, considers them to have recovered sufficiently.

The Oxford and Cambridge Boat Race squads will be involved, although both will be without their Tasmania personnel, who, in Oxford's case, includes a pairs bronze medal-winner, Matthew Pinsent. Both Oxford and Cambridge have recruited leading junior rowers this autumn in Peter Bridge and Nick Clarry, who were in the Great Britain gold medal-winning junior four this summer. Bridge will be in the Oxford coxless four, which starts thirteenth, directly ahead of Cambridge.

Oxford and Cambridge will be strongly challenged in that division by Imperial College, Tideway Scullers and Leander. Len and Tideway Scullers look strong contenders for the coxed fours.

The overall entry includes crews from 87 clubs, 37 colleges, and 12 schools.

## Jardine shows Gooch how to put zip into an Ashes series

By KEN LAWRENCE

IT WILL come as little surprise to learn that Douglas Jardine is a hero to Tony Greig. The former England captain, who aroused the wrath of the West Indians for his "two make them grovel" comment in 1976, believes that his predecessor, who was hated by the Australians for his bodyline bowling performance at a critical time there, took the Ashes back to England.

"He had a job to do and he went out and did it," Greig said in Australia this week. "Jardine performed a miracle there; he worked out a strategy that took the Ashes back to England."

In the build-up to this winter's Ashes series, Greig, who will be heading Sky's exclusive half-by-half coverage, was recalling the Australia-England confrontation almost 60 years ago as Sky



launched their winter cricket coverage with *Bodline*, a five-part, ten-hour reconstruction of that dramatic series, which will give viewers the chance to judge Jardine for themselves.

It starts tomorrow (8pm-10pm), continues on Monday and Tuesday and concludes on Sunday and Monday next week, with the first ball of the first Test due to be shown at midnight on November 22.

The first two hours set the theme, showing the nine-year

old Douglas Jardine celebrating his birthday in India and receiving a cricket bat as a present from a former England captain, Lord Harris. He sails, alone, home to England to be educated at cricket schools, Morris Hill and Wischamster.

Lord Harris contributes to his single-mindedness, which in turn leads to his ruthless determination to win. At nine wearing his father's Harlequin cap, he tells Lord Harris that he intends to win one of his own. At 18, as captain of Winchester, he orders a bowler to run out "without warning" an Eton batsman who is backing up and out of his ground.

I had not heard or read of this incident before. *Bodline* was filmed, originally for Australia's Channel 10. Did it really happen? Indeed it did, says Pelham Warner and Percy Fender all appear at that match to argue the rights and wrongs of the schoolboy's leadership? "It matters not, for it simply serves to show what sort of a captain Jardine was for England in 1932-3 when he led the team to the southern hemisphere."

That tour is now the greatest legend in cricket. *Bodline* describes itself as "the story of an unwavering will and of three men". Those three are Jardine, Harold Larwood, and Donald Bradman, the Australians' most famous run-maker.

An old Scotsman, Andrew Lane, who looked after the young Jardine during school holidays, told him: "You do not bow at the stumps of the bats; you study a batsman and you bowl at his mind... at his weaknesses. Jardine never forgot, and in 1932 he studied Bradman and decided that he would prove a perceived weakness with vicious fast leg-side bowling."

He was the general of *Bodline*, and Larwood, the coal-miner from Nottingham, was his strike force. Larwood, delivering at over 100 miles an hour, bowled at the body, however, rather than the mid-

## THE WEEK'S HIGHLIGHTS

TODAY: Can Great Britain clinch the rugby league series against Australia at Old Trafford? Can Scotland do a better job against the Argentinians than England last week? And can France put up a half-decent fight against the All Blacks? The answers to the first two can be found on Grandstand (BBC1, from 12.20pm) and to the third on ITV (4-4.45pm).

MONDAY: It is a live sport you want. Screenplay by John Parrott playing James Watson in the London Masters Snooker (BBC1, from 7.30pm). There is boxing on ITV (Thames, HTV and Anglia only) at 11.30pm, but one of the evening's great contests, the 1987 bout between Sugar Ray Leonard and Marvin Hagler is not to be missed on BBC1 (8.30pm).

TUESDAY: The sort of day on BBC that Sky will be glad to be taking over. There is no sport on terrestrial channels and plenty non-event stuff on Eurosport and Screensport, but BBC is live from Frankfurt (every day from today, at 3.30pm, until Sunday) at the ATP Tour world championships. The perfect tennis "shoot-out," the commentator, Gary Williams, says, with Edberg, Becker or Lend sure to take the No. 1 ranking.

WEDNESDAY: An action-packed day, starting with England's European championship qualifier against the Republic of Ireland in Dublin (ITV live, at 12.00pm, with highlights at 10.00pm). The Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland matches are highlighted in Sportsnight (BBC1, at 10pm).

THURSDAY: Jackie Stewart, perhaps Britain's greatest racing driver, lives in a mansion overlooking Lake Geneva; his son, Paul, aspiring to succeed his father, "dosses" where he can, sometimes in a tiny London flat owned by his brother, sometimes with Lord Rosebery at his stately home, Brocksby, but he really lives "out of a caravan" in the back of his Scorpio car. Tony Mason looks at the young Stewart in Top Gear (BBC1, 8.30pm).

FRIDAY: Places for the British team for the world swimming championships are up for grabs at the TSB water championships, which share Helen Rollason's Sport on Friday show with Garry Jones' *Swimming* (BBC2, 8.30pm). Homeless action of the day will be on BBC with the teams from Frankfurt (from 8pm).

هكسان النحل



# Australians make six changes in their attempt to square rugby league series

## The watchword is resolution

By KEITH MACKLIN

FOR everyone with the Great Britain team's interests at heart, whether at the game at Old Trafford or watching on television, this afternoon promises to be one of almost unbearable tension.

It is 20 years since Great Britain won a rugby league series against Australia but at Manchester today, the team has a chance to erase some of the memories of humiliation and depression of those wilderness years, during which British rugby too often sank to its knees when faced with the men in green and gold.

Victory would complete a long haul back to international respect, which began with the remarkable and totally unexpected win at Sydney in 1968 when they faced another 3-0 whitewash. It continued with two series wins against New Zealand and achieved a staggering momentum with the euphoric victory at Wembley two weeks ago.

If Great Britain do manage to win today you can be sure the celebrations both on and off the field will be even more ecstatic and long-lasting than those which lit up Wembley a fortnight ago.

However, the British camp is only too aware that the Australians, smarting after that bitter defeat in the first match of the series, will come

out fighting as never before. As Keith Barnes, their manager said: "Bobby Fulton, the coach, and I had no need to motivate the players for this one. They know that the series and their own professional pride and reputation are at stake. They want to go back to Australia with their heads high."

Fulton's six changes from the team beaten 19-12 at Wembley will give the touring side greater pace and mobility. Stuart will be a more combative scrum half, and is unlikely to allow Gregory the licence he was given by Langer. The return of Daley, even with bandaged hand, will bring extra smoothness to the backs, and he and Lyons, who plays stand-off with Daley in the centre, can change positions if the situation warrants.

Up front, where the Australians were cut down to size by the determined British tacklers, Lazarus, at prop and Mackay at loose forward will give both the pack and team effort greater impetus and running power. The trump card for Fulton could yet prove to be the choice of the tour vice-captain Benny Elias as hooker, in place of Kerrod Walters.

Elias is a cunning and skilful ball handler, full of crafty tricks and quick switches of play from the acting half-back

position. If he is allowed to weave too many patterns, Great Britain will suffer.

None of these factors will be overlooked by Malcolm Reilly, the Great Britain coach. He and the captain, Ellery Hanley, have had no illusions about the certainty of a strong Australian response to the Lions' cavalry charge in the first international. The players were heavily criticised at Wembley when Hanley told them that only a battle had been won, not the war.

The war can be won by four o'clock this afternoon, but only by another 90 minutes of unbroken concentration to complement Hanley's leadership, the half-back skills of Schofield and Gregory, and a deep kicking game to drive the Australians back into their own territory. Above all, the tackling must not be found wanting when the Australians, as they surely will, launch wave after wave of attacks.

Great Britain made only one change in personnel. The Wigan forward, Andy Platt, having recovered from injury, is recalled to the front row with Paul Dixon moving into the second row and the unlucky Roy Powell being demoted to the substitutes bench.

Hopefully, the decision not to make the match all-ricket will not be boomerang on the Rugby Football League and the Old Trafford authorities.

The capacity has been fixed at 48,000 and it is to be hoped that everyone who wants to attend what could well prove to be an historic match will be able to do so and not be faced by locked gates and closed turnstiles.

**Rochdale in double signing**

ROCHDALE Hornets yesterday signed Danny Abram, aged 23, a centre, and Stuart Galbraith, scrum half, in a double signing from Trafford Borough. Rochdale, the bottom club in the first division, have paid £50,000 for Abram, formerly a player with Warrington. The club paid an undisclosed fee for Galbraith, a New Zealander, who had five months of his contract to run.

However, Rochdale have failed to sign Mike Kuiti, the New Zealand international forward, from Leeds.

Stones Bitter

championship, page 31



Reinforcement: Andy Platt, the Wigan forward, will strengthen the British team successful at Wembley

# When actions speak as loud as the singer

LAURA THOMPSON

SOME time ago, in the days when I would watch *Top of the Pops* with the fanaticism which I now accord only to *Question of Sport*, I saw a band called Dexy's Midnight Runners giving a "live" performance of their latest single.

This was an old Van Morrison song entitled *Jackie Wilson Said*, and the lead singer of the band had requested of the BBC producer that during the performance a large picture of Jackie Wilson should be beamed up behind him as a backdrop. Jackie Wilson was a black soul singer, now, whether it was someone playing a massive joke, or somebody drunk, or ignorant, or perhaps just somebody plain malicious, the fact that he was beamed up to fill the video screen behind Dexy's Midnight Runners was not the face of Jackie Wilson but instead the cheery, loquacious, pasty-cheeked face of the Scottish darts player, Jackie Wilson.

The more I think about that, the funnier it seems. Somewhere this obscure memory sums up the relationship between sport and pop music. There was this band, rather pompous, a bit self-important, longing to proclaim to its impressionable audience its knowledge of a little-known (at that time) soul singer; and there was the face of Jocky Wilson destroying the whole carefully contrived image with one flash of his non-existent (at that time) teeth.

Sport is better-natured than pop music and on the whole its practitioners take themselves a good deal less seriously. Pop singers can leave even actors behind them when it comes to pretentiousness. Yet there has always been a link between sport and pop music: into the recording studio piles Paul Gascoigne, with his bunched, uncomplicated, have-a-go attitude, grinning right into the camera and joggling himself in time to the music, displaying a lack of embarrassment, an excess of good spirits, which would have his fellow Newcastle pop boy, Bryan Ferry, squirming delicately inside his state-of-the-art suit.

How well I remember the contempt with which, from behind the protective dark veils of my intimacy with bands like The Stranglers, I regarded Kevin Keegan's solo single, *Head Over Heels in Love* (mind you, it was terrible).

Why did he do it? Well, of course, they do it for money. But they could do other things for money: no, there is something lurking behind those recording studios. I have an idea that pop stars and sports stars are often heroes to each other. Rumour has it that backstage, waiting to perform at a recent Stones gig, Mick Jagger saw before a television set watching England play Belgium in Italy, occasionally turning up on his team with a drawn-out dagger to "Calm on, pass the ball".

There is an empathy born of the fact that both sports and pop performers the vast arena that houses popular culture, both provide mass entertainment and sometimes this mutual appreciation causes them to want to have a go at what the other does. The problem is that appreciation does not necessarily lead to understanding.

Nevertheless, watching those recording sessions that one inevitably sees on programmes like *Newsroom South East*, the sports boys seem to enjoy it and to have blind faith in the quality of their product (if I were a footballer, I should have to invent an illness on the day that I was due to record my pre-competition song).

This year's World Cup song was somewhat overshadowed by *Nesbitt Dornia*, a superior composition and one whose usage helped to re-invent the public image of football by making the World Cup significant far a venerable,

visceral way (a bold BBC stroke). The other World Cup song, the rhapsodic one that had John Barnes instead of Luciano Pavarotti, was awful. John Barnes is a man who can do little wrong in my eyes but he severely tried my allegiance during the video when he jiggered a quarter of the way across the screen, like the old *Grandstand* teleprinter, and made with his repressed falsetto.

Far, far better was the thrashing buoyancy of *Back Home* (World Cup 1970) or even *Bliss* (the other *Cher's* 1977); all of whose words I still remember so clear as on through the sun and rain. "In other words, in these areas it is better not to be trendy."

Recently, I spent half an evening dissecting Gary Lineker's record choice on *Desert Island Discs*; there was an amazed consensus at the lack of self-consciousness that would lead to man to admit to wanting to camp out on a beach in the company of Chris de Burgh and Dire Straits.

But the record choice has always been an insidious pointer to character: in Lineker's case it appeared to confirm his footballer's straightforwardness; in Fred Trueman's case, a latent emotionalism was revealed by his selection of *And I Love You So*, sung by Shirley Bassey. I certainly feel that I know all about Adrian Moorhouse since becoming apprised of his love of early punk and his dislike of the *Chloë of Fire* music.

This information was gained via a preview of a programme which will begin next Wednesday on Radio 5, in which Grahame Crooks will interview sporting celebrities and get them to play their favourite music; having heard two of these transmissions, I should say that they are a definite improvement on *Desert Island Discs*.

I do not think that I can stand to hear one more person describe how they would be able to build a raft and fry up paw-paw for breakfast (now I shall never get on it; and I have had my eight records ready for the last five years). *Ally's Tropicana Army*, no *Sucker*. *Loopy*, no *Huddle* and *Waddle* duets among them.

## HOCKEY

### Old friend awaiting Stourport

By SYDNEY FRISKIN

WHEN Stourport visit Chelmsford tomorrow for a third-round match in the Nationwide Anglia Cup they will renew acquaintance with the home captain, John Aldridge, a member of the Stourport team for several years before he moved away.

Stourport, runners-up to Havant last season, will be without their captain, Steve Taylor, who is on holiday, and will have Wallace in goal. Stourport look strong enough to beat Chelmsford, although they will not take them lightly, but a more daunting task awaits them in the next round when they meet Llanelli Glynys in the Pountreacher National League at Felham.

With a 1-0 victory over Slough and a 4-4 draw with Southgate behind them, Stourport are riding high and their strong team includes Imran Sherwani, who has scored three of their goals. But Indian Gynkhan is also playing with renewed confidence and Kulbir Bhamra has recovered his rest for scoring. He has five goals so far.

Wettest, still without a point in the league, visit Slough today but are at home to Colchester tomorrow in the cup and are expected to go through. Wakefield, another team trapped at the wrong end of the league table, appear to have little chance at Featherstone sports centre today against East Grinstead and face an even more difficult task tomorrow at the same venue in the cup when they confront St Albans, who last week defeated Hounslow 4-3.

Hounslow, despite the absence of Butler and Robert Thompson, now in Australia with the Great Britain team, are playing their cup match tomorrow against Warrington at Felham as scheduled, confident that their resources are still strong enough to carry them through.

Bremley, runners-up to Hounslow, two seasons ago, expect to get past Preston for a place in the fourth round and Jersey, who had a good run last season, are visiting Broxbourne. Two local derbies add spice to the day-with Felham playing Trofens and Cheltenham taking on Evesham.

Two cup matches, Taiston Vale v Havant and East Grinstead v Southgate, have been postponed until December 15.

Great Britain: preparing for the Champions Trophy tournament at Melbourne starting on November 17 are due to play international matches against Australia at Newcastle, today, and Brisbane tomorrow.

But the news from the camp headquarters is disquieting. Gynkhan has a virus infection. Martin a pulled calf muscle and Rowlands a shoulder strain. John Cliff and Kirkwood are slightly under the weather.

## GUIDE TO THE WEEKEND FIXTURES

3.0 unless stated

### FOOTBALL

#### Barclays League

##### First division

Aston Villa v Nottingham Forest

Chelsea v Norwich

Derby Co v Manchester Utd

Sheff Utd v Luton

Sheff Wed v Everton

Southampton v QPR

Sunderland v Coventry

Tottenham v Wimbledon

Second division

Barnsley v Leicester

Blackburn v Sheff Wed

Brighton v Plymouth

Cardiff v Port Vale

Hull v Ipswich

Millwall v West Ham (all tickets)

Notts Co v WBA

Oxford v Bristol City

Swindon v Portsmouth

Wolves v Newcastle

FA Vase: First round replay: Macclesfield v Ramsgate

OVENING PAPERS COMBINATION:

Cardiff v Swindon; Ipswich v Chelsea (2.15); Luton v Millwall (2.0)

SMERFORTH RUSH LEAGUE: Ards v Carrick

Glenties v Carrick; Carrick v Carrick; Carrick v Carrick

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### Third division

Bolton v Reading

Bournemouth v Rotherham

Brentford v Preston

Brentford v Bury

Cardiff v Bournemouth

Huddersfield v Cambridge

L Orient v Exeter

Manchester v Swindon

Walsingham v Fulham

Stoke v Wigan

Tranmere v Grimsby

Fourth division

Blackpool v Aldershot

Cardiff v Chesterfield

Carlisle v York

Darlington v Hartlepool

Grimsby v Lincoln

Hull v Ipswich

Millwall v West Ham (all tickets)

Notts Co v WBA

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By BARRY PICKTHALL

The eligibility code giving the International Yacht Racing Union (IYRU), the governing body of the sport, powers to license yachtsmen and tax sponsored events lost its power yesterday.

A late move by 17 leading sailing nations, including Britain, the United States, Australia, New Zealand, the Scandinavian countries and three European nations, to float alternative proposals created such a wide split within the 96-nation union that only the first clause of the 18-page document was accepted. Out went proposals to categorise yachtsmen as professionals or amateurs, along with the need for union approval for sponsored events when prizes exceed \$15,000.

The code was reduced to its simplest form and relates only to the most important events which include the Olympic Games, the America's Cup, the Women's World Championships, the Land Rover Nations Cup match race championship, and the Olympic Games. It now reads: "To be eligible to compete in IYRU events, including the Olympic Games, a competitor shall (a) observe and abide by the rules of the IYRU, (b) be a member of the IYRU member national authority or one of the IYRU member national authority's affiliate."

The contentious clauses, together with the 17-nation consensus paper vesting control with individual federations, were deferred for the second successive year and will be raised once more at the union's meeting in Capri in March.

"This has been a significant shot across the union's bows," Robin Duchesne, the secretary-general of Britain's Royal Yachting Association, said.

Seventy-one countries have agreed to send teams to next year's IYRU Nations Cup match race championship. Britain will be the host at the European regional round in Italian Southwest, the winner of this year's James Capel national match race championship.



# New Halen on hand to mark to gain second Cheltenham triumph

By MANDARIN  
(MICHAEL PHILLIPS)

NEW Halen, who created one of the biggest shocks of last season when winning the Midway Of Flete Challenge Cup during the National Hunt Festival at Cheltenham at odds of 66-1, returns to the scene of his greatest triumph today in an attempt to try and win the Mackeson Gold Cup over the same course and distance.

Tough assignment that this is, I still think he stands an excellent chance and he is my pick.

The extraordinary aspect of that fine victory last March was the fact that even after the weights had risen overnight he was still set to carry 18lb more than his allotted mark in the long handicap.

But with Eamon Tierney looking excellent value for his 7lb allowance, there did not appear to be a semblance of a fluke about the way New Halen dominated the race and eventually strode away up the hill from those in-form horses Lucinda and King Of The Lot.

As a leader broke during his only subsequent race last season, we had to wait until he reappeared after a summer's rest at Stratford three weeks ago to see whether or not that Cheltenham win was simply a flash in the pan.

New Halen did not disappoint. Although he started the outsider of three, he beat Assaglawi, who had won twice already at Worcester, fair and square.

So with Tierney again claiming his allowance and reducing the burden to only 9st 9lb, I believe New Halen will give his backers another good run for their money.

What appeals to me in particular is his ability to take the all the running, thereby staying out of any trouble that may occur.

Followers of Martin Pipe's stable can choose between Wingspan and P's Lady, who are also unbeaten this season.

While Wingspan appears to have plenty on his plate with top weight, P's Lady will be meeting Clever Folly on the same course and distance.

On the other hand, Joint Sovereignty, who won today's race 12 months ago, has not looked in such good form since.

Captain Mor is another who has not been beaten this time by John Williams.

The colt equalled the record at Pontefract on September 4, but then had injury problems and underwent a knee operation. He made his reappearance in the United States last month, but trailed in last in the Laurel Futurity.

O'Gorman reported: "There is no point pretending Timeless Times is at his best and if we weren't in this record-breaking situation we wouldn't even be thinking about it. But I think he could win a nursery off 102."

Timeless Times attempt

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Dunwoody: rides that fine prospect Bismun

Richard Dunwoody, who rode Thar-An-Bhar that day, has the ride again. But this talented jockey has better prospects of winning the Flowers Original Handicap Chase on Bismun, whose first run since last season at Newbury held out such high hopes.

At Doncaster, the William Hill November Handicap is the last big race of the flat season, which closes at Folkestone on Monday.

In the early Sixties, the late Tower Gosden, from his base in Lewes, became the scourge of the bookmakers when he won the corresponding race when it was still run at the now defunct Manchester racecourse three years out of four with Damredub, Best Song and Concealment.

With a record like that in the family, it is hardly surprising that his son John, who now operates a highly successful operation in Newmarket having done likewise in California, is doubly anxious to make his own mark, hopefully with My Lord, a fresh horse who satisfied George Robinson, our Newmarket correspondent, with a fine piece of work on the Limeskiln recently.

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season, his last success being gained with the minimum of fuss at Wetherby only last Saturday. He has been penalised 6lb as a result.

Thar-An-Bhar, however, has not been penalised for winning ten days ago at Newbury.

Richard Dunwoody, who rode Thar-An-Bhar that day, has the ride again. But this talented jockey has better prospects of winning the Flowers Original Handicap Chase on Bismun, whose first run since last season at Newbury held out such high hopes.

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## Timeless Times attempt

BILL O'Gorman has decided to let Timeless Times take his chance in the seven-furlong El Alamein Nursery at Doncaster today in an attempt to better the juvenile record of 16 wins in a season.

The Newmarket trainer will be doubly represented in this event as he also saddles Scottish Castle, who is chasing a four-year-old, with O'Gorman's daughter Emma aboard.

Timeless Times, who won the record with Provoked and The Bard, will be ridden for the first time by John Williams.

The colt equalled the record at Pontefract on September 4, but then had injury problems and underwent a knee operation. He made his reappearance in the United States last month, but trailed in last in the Laurel Futurity.

O'Gorman reported: "There is no point pretending Timeless Times is at his best and if we weren't in this record-breaking situation we wouldn't even be thinking about it. But I think he could win a nursery off 102."

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## Piggott hopes Fabre ride

LESTER Piggott has been enlisted by Sheikh Mohammed as he attempts to hold off his elder brother Hamdan Al-Maktoum as the top of the Flat owners table.

At Folkestone on Monday, the final day of the turf season, Piggott has been booked to ride the Andre Fabre-trained Tartan Maiden for the Sheikh in the Argenta Hotel Maiden Stakes.

Piggott will also be in action at Doncaster today.

Timeless Times attempt

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Executive Editor David Brewerton

## BUSINESS

Unilever  
hit by  
profit  
cutback  
in USBy GRAHAM SEARJEANT  
FINANCIAL EDITOR

UNILEVER, the Anglo-Dutch food, detergent and toiletries group, disappointed the stock markets with an 8 per cent rise in third-quarter pre-tax profits, increased to £488 million.

This was despite an earlier warning from Sir Michael Angus, the chairman, that the second half of the year might be difficult. The shares initially dropped 29p to 593p.

But they recovered to 613p, down 9p, after it emerged that the results unexpectedly included some £30 million of exceptional costs to restructure Lipton, the group's American test operation.

Together with tough competition in North America and heavy promotional spending in the detergent market there, that pushed American operating profits for the three months to end September down from £116 million to £74 million, on 7 per cent higher turnover. Sir Michael said the American results were disappointing. In most of the group's other markets round the world profits and margins improved. European profits were particularly buoyant, partly due to ice cream sales on the continent, rising 27 per cent to £375 million.

Within Europe, the German market was singled out as a success.

Sir Michael said the results were also helped by the sale of the group's oilseed milling operations in Britain and Germany.

Outside North America and Europe, the group made broadly based progress, but in Japan the market still remained difficult and competitive.

The third-quarter dividend is up 7.8 per cent to 4.86p per share, from earnings up 12 per cent to 15.6p.

For the nine months, pre-tax profits rose 6 per cent to £1.33 billion from turnover up 12 per cent to £16.6 billion. Earnings per share were 16 per cent higher at 44.53p.

Brokers' profit forecasts for the full year were cut at the interim stage, after Sir Michael said he was cautious about the second half. County NatWest has again reduced its 1990 pre-tax forecast from £1.85 billion to £1.8 billion.

## Uncertainty over Polly Peck hurts northern Cyprus

From ANGELA MACKAY  
IN NORTHERN CYPRUS

THE council of ministers of northern Cyprus held an emergency meeting yesterday to discuss a growing regional cash problem exacerbated by the uncertainty surrounding the future ownership of Polly Peck International's assets there.

Richard Stone, one of PPT's administrators, two colleagues spent the day with Ilker Nevzat, chief executive of PPT in Cyprus. Interests include the Sunzart fruit packing and processing plant, four hotels trading under the Voyager flag, Pearl Construction, A N Graphics and Cyprus Industrial Bank. Asil Nadir, Polly Peck's

Turkish Cypriot chairman, had been expected to accompany Mr Stone, but stayed in London to prepare a defence in a bankruptcy action.

The council meeting, chaired by Mr Rauf Denktaş, the region's president, was called after much of northern Cyprus had no electricity for seven hours on Thursday because the electricity board could not afford diesel oil for the power plant. The plants provide a back-up to the power sold to the north by the Greek Cypriots in authority in the south.

Mr Stone planned to submit a preliminary report within the week valuing PPT assets but the government in northern

Cyprus has frustrated attempts to examine bank accounts and other documentation. He will try to meet ministers this weekend and petition for a lifting of the injunction that is prohibiting local subsidiaries from revealing information to him.

Mr Denktaş has provided moral support for Mr Nadir, but his government cannot provide financial support.

Mr Nadir is planning to fly to northern Cyprus next week to help Mr Stone's investigation, despite moves by Barclays de Zoete Wedd and Shearson Lehman Brothers to declare him bankrupt. A petition by Lehman and BZW will be heard in the bankruptcy registry on

Tuesday. They are suing Mr Nadir for £22.1 million.

The trade department is keeping alive its option of mounting an investigation into Polly Peck after meeting the company's administrators yesterday. Michael Jordan, PPT's administrator from Coopers & Lybrand Deloitte, met DTI officials to report on the progress of his investigation.

A Coopers spokesman described the meetings as "easy going", while the DTI said it was a routine meeting and it would keep in touch with the administrators while they prepare their report on the company.

Peter Lilley, the trade secretary, said when PPT was placed in administration

that he would request a full report from Coopers at the earliest opportunity. But Coopers' enquiries are still at an early stage and the DTI wants clearer details before deciding to investigate.

The Serious Fraud Office is anxious to meet Jason Davies, the former broker at the centre of the Polly Peck affair, at his home in Geneva, according to his lawyer in London, Rodney Hytton-Potts.

The British police need the formal agreement of the Swiss authorities before they can visit Mr Davies, who runs Nadir Investments, the Swiss company that administers the personal finances of the Nadir family.

Pöhl calls for  
two-speed  
move to Emu

By ANATOLE KALETSKY, ECONOMICS EDITOR

KARL Otto Pöhl, the president of the German Bundesbank, called yesterday for an inner core of European countries to move quickly towards a fuller monetary union. He also offered a sharp, and sometimes sarcastic, critique of Britain's proposal for a new European currency, the "hard ecu", and repeated the Bundesbank's demand that other countries that wanted a monetary union would have to make their central banks politically independent first.

The same message on central bank independence, which Bundesbank officials said was aimed at France as well as Britain, was repeated in even stronger terms in Washington by Dr Hans Tietmeyer, a key member of the Bundesbank council.

Herr Pöhl told a conference at the London School of Economics that the European central bank proposed by last month's Rome summit

should not be established until "it has been clearly decided which countries are prepared and able to irrevocably fix their exchange rates and to transfer monetary policy responsibility to the community".

Such a move to fully fixed exchange rates between Germany, France, the Benelux countries and possibly Denmark and Ireland was "the most likely and the most realistic scenario" for progress towards the ultimate goal of economic and monetary union (Emu) among all the countries of Europe, Herr Pöhl added later in a discussion at the LSE on his prepared statement.

He argued that other countries, including Britain, Italy and Spain, should not stand in the way of this approach to Emu, since they would be able to join in later as their domestic economic conditions improved. "Why should we not have a group of countries which have reached a high degree of convergence start the exercise? The door

would be left open for other countries to join later."

Herr Pöhl also delivered an acerbic critique of Britain's proposals for a market-based approach to Emu through the creation of a "hard ecu". This would be a non-inflationary currency that a European central bank would circulate alongside existing national currencies.

He insisted this "parallel currency strategy offers no advantages" in terms of institutional arrangements, since it does not guarantee the independence of the European central bank. But it has the crucial disadvantage of leaving responsibility for monetary policy unclear between the national and European central banks. Responsibility for monetary policy had to be "indivisible" and vested in one politically independent central bank. Because the hard ecu approach would divide this responsibility it could be "the worst possible recipe for monetary policy".

Kenneth Fleet, page 37



Financial exchanges: Karl Otto Pöhl and John Major, the Chancellor, meeting at 11 Downing Street yesterday

Company failures at  
their second highestBy PHILIP BASSETT  
INDUSTRIAL EDITOR

CLEAR evidence of the accelerating scale of the economic recession has surfaced in official figures showing a 23 per cent rise in company failures in three months.

Peter Lilley, the trade secretary, however, said there was no need to expect a repeat of the recession of the early Eighties.

The statistics, from the trade department, show company insolvencies to be the second-highest ever. The total for individual insolvencies is a record.

The figures, published through the British Chambers of Commerce, show that the provisional seasonally adjusted total of company insolvencies for the third quarter of this year was 4,018, an increase of 22.7 per cent from the 3,273 recorded for the previous three months.

The year-on-year rise from last year's third quarter stands at 62 per cent.

The particularly sharp rise in the latest quarter, is in line with recent surveys from the chamber and the CBI. They show business confidence at its lowest level for a decade.

Compulsory liquidations have risen 80 per cent over the year to an unadjusted figure of 985 for July to September, while voluntary liquidations



Lilley: no easy cure

are up 57 per cent to 2,316.

Mr Lilley, speaking at the chambers' annual lunch in London, said inflation had to be reduced, and that curing it would not be painless or easy. He said: "The underlying strength of the economy after a decade of rising productivity and profitability means that there is no reason to expect a re-run of the 1980-1 recession."

Miles Middleton, BCC president, said: "The steep rise in insolvencies confirms that businesses are going through a very difficult period and will need as much support as can be provided."

Last night, Michael Spicer,

the housing minister, speaking to construction employers in Broadway, Gloucestershire, said there were some encouraging signs ahead for the building industry.

Mr Spicer added that recent gloomy surveys about construction prospects had been taken before the recent cut in interest rates.

However, according to the latest survey from the Federation of Civil Engineering Contractors, few engineering contractors expected any increase in work or employment over the next 12 months.

Fifty-two per cent of companies are reporting worse order books than 12 months ago. Forty-eight per cent are expecting to employ fewer workers than a year ago. Profits are also being squeezed and 79 per cent of companies report lower margins than a year ago.

Further gloom is expected next week when the CBI publishes the regional breakdown of its survey on industrial trends.

European pessimism over the outlook for business is concentrated primarily in the UK, according to a Dun & Bradstreet survey. Dr Joseph

Duncan, Dun & Bradstreet's chief economist, said: "The low level of optimism in the UK clearly indicates that a recession is in place."

Hillsdown  
puts offer  
to Lilley

By OUR FINANCIAL EDITOR

HILLSDOWN Holdings has put a last minute compromise offer to Peter Lilley, the trade secretary, to try to save its rescue deal for Strong & Fisher, the siling leather processor, without a monopolies commission enquiry.

Mr Lilley said earlier that he would refer the deal, which would give Hillsdown a majority stake in S&F, unless Hillsdown agreed to sell S&F's 27 per cent stake in Pittard Garnar, the other main quoted leather group.

Pittard's shares are at a low ebb because of the parlous state of the market for skins and this exacerbated S&F's problems.

Hillsdown, which is keen to rationalise the industry, does not want to sell the stake at this low point and has hinted that it might walk away from the S&F deal if it were referred, precipitating a likely collapse of S&F.

Talks were being held between Hillsdown and trade department officials to see if the new proposal satisfies the department's objections to the combination on competitive grounds.

Canada Packers, Hillsdown's 56 per cent owned Canadian offshoot, is to reorganise its processed food division, cutting 160 jobs, many at divisional head office.

Oxford's trading  
profit sharply up

By PHILIP PANGALOS

OXFORD Instruments Group unveiled pre-tax profits of £6.05 million in the six months to end September against £3.37 million last time. However, last time's figures included an exceptional property disposal gain of £5.36 million, suggesting a real advance in profits of 51 per cent, which was above market expectations.

Organic growth helped the group's turnover advance 29 per cent to £49.3 million, with between 80 and 90 per cent of revenue overseas. America is the biggest market, accounting for a third of sales, followed by Europe and Japan.

Sir Austin Pearce, the chairman, said that the scientific research businesses recorded a good first half performance, although processing activities had a tougher time, with the exception of synchrotron, a project which is intended to revolutionise the production of silicon chips.

Sir Austin said the testing of the synchrotron has proceeded well and the prototype will shortly be shipped to IBM's facility in America. He added: "A high level of interest continues to be shown by semi-conductor manufacturers and efforts are being made to convert this interest into orders." The group benefited from a particularly good

performance from the MRI magnet joint venture with Siemens, helped by one-off cost reductions.

Oxford Instruments also had a cash inflow after the group's tax status changed. There was a £1.94 million profit from associated companies, against a loss of £295,000 last time.

Link Scientific, the X-ray analytical machine company acquired in September 1989, broke even on sales of £1.1 million. Peter Williams, Oxford's chief executive, expects "a substantial profit" in the second half.

Operating profits rose 28 per cent to £3.71 million. Interest receipts fell from £1.4 million to £392,000, largely due to the acquisition of Link for £47.5 million.

Earnings per share stood at 8.2p, against 12.4p including the exceptional item and 5.2p excluding exceptional items. The interim dividend is raised to 1.35p (1.20p).

Sir Austin's retirement as chairman has been postponed until the end of March, at which time Peter Williams will be appointed as chairman and chief executive. The shares firmed 3p to 227p, having touched 235p.

Andrew Harrington at Barclays de Zoete Wedd has trimmed his full year pre-tax profits forecast to £16 million.

No second  
chance on  
DTI plan

By OUR INDUSTRIAL EDITOR

COMPANIES that have used management consultants under the government's consultancy initiative scheme will be unable to do so again from April, under a three-year extension of the programme.

The trade department said yesterday that to increase value for money from the scheme, the support available would be more closely focused.

Under the scheme, five-to-fifteen day consultancy projects are offered in six areas. Since the scheme was launched in January 1989, 63,000 companies have made use of it.

Peter Lilley, the trade secretary, said consultancy initiatives had "made a major contribution towards overcoming the reluctance of small and medium-sized firms to use outside expertise".

The DTI's decision was partly taken as a result of the findings of a survey on the effectiveness of the scheme. The majority of users needed only one consultancy to be convinced of the value of subsequently using consultants at full market rates.

The study showed that 84 per cent of companies surveyed believed the scheme represented value for money, and that 82 per cent had begun to implement their consultants' recommendations.

US wholesale  
inflation at 7%

From SUSAN ELLICOTT IN WASHINGTON

WHOLESALE inflation in America has jumped to its highest level for nine years, the government said, only hours after the White House confirmed that the economy was probably in recession.

October's producer price index, gleaned from a basket of prices charged by producers for goods sold to wholesale or retail outlets, showed a higher than expected 1.1 per cent increase. This brought inflation at the wholesale level to a seasonally-adjusted annualised rate of 7.0 per cent, compared with a 4.9 per cent increase last year.

The monthly increase was the third in a row, although economists were encouraged that the so-called core rate of inflation, which excludes food and energy costs, was unchanged from September. Petrol price increases showed

signs of losing momentum, rising 8 per cent compared with 13.8 per cent in September, the first full month after Iraq's invasion of Kuwait.

The figures came the day after Michael Boskin, the White House chief economic adviser, said the economy "at best is in a lull" that could last until the middle of next year. He said a Bush administration economic forecast, due next week, forecasts the possibility of negative growth in the final quarter of this year or the first three months of 1991. President Bush also warned that his country's economy was "in some tough times".

Share prices on Wall Street rose amid speculation that the gloomy predictions and unchanged core rate of wholesale inflation could prompt another cut in short-term interest rates.

TRAINING is something that everyone seems to favour. Except the government. Or so its critics would say, based on the autumn statement, which saw significant cuts in the training budget for the long-term unemployed, and no increase in the employment department's overall spending provisions as a result of this year's public expenditure negotiations.

Michael Howard, the employment secretary, moved quickly to try to present the opposite point of view. He telephoned chairmen of several Training and Enterprise Councils (TECs), the business-based bodies that the government has set up to run training in the United Kingdom, to reassure them of the government's commitment to their work.

Ron Lawrence, chairman of the Essex TEC and one who received a call, said: "The government is serious about it, but we know that there isn't a bottomless purse. We know that there have to be winners and losers in the

## Government reaffirms its commitment after budget cuts

## Training councils win financial flexibility

By PHILIP BASSETT  
INDUSTRIAL EDITOR

public spending round. We think we have come out of it reasonably well."

Tony Blair, Labour's employment spokesman, does not he describes Mr Howard as a "comprehensive loser" in the negotiations.

Many TEC leaders believed Mr Howard had won more money. They thought his repeated insistence that they would have the money indicated more was on the way.

The government's judgment is that the operational financial flexibility it is offering TECs will be enough to assuage feelings that more cash ought to have been obtained, and will be enough to hold on to the senior company managers that the government believes are central to the success of TECs.

TEC leaders yesterday started to receive details of their specific budgets, and of the planned cuts in expenditure for the Employment Training programme for the long-term unemployed. Labour may see the government's rescinding of ET as an abandonment of the long-term unemployed, but skill shortages are a

greater problem for many TECs, and tying money to ET budgets gave them insufficient room to respond to local labour market requirements.

Many felt hindered by the financial controls imposed upon them, mainly as the insistence of the Treasury, which thought that it was for the government, and not private industry, to fund the training of the unemployed, and so it was for the government to ensure that taxpayers' money was properly and accountably spent. The flexibility package behind the autumn statement breaks that hold. TECs performing to or above their targets will be able to switch up to 5 per cent of each individual programme's budget. So if the need for youth training is greater than that for unemployed training, for instance, they will have the managerial flexibility to move at least some money to meet it.

A quarter of their funding will be output-related, geared to reaching specific targets, and they have been given £105 million to cover the running of work-related further edu-

cation, which has been switched to TECs.

Michael Hind, chief executive of Milton Keynes TEC, said: "The flexibility far outweighs any reductions. They key thing from our point of view is that the flexibility will allow us to deliver much greater value for money."

If the TECs operate better now, training provision may well be delivered, but whether that will affect the overall political point is a separate issue. Alistair Graham, director of the Industrial Society and chairman of the training lead body, said: "It really is a bizarre sort of political priority to cut overall expenditure on training at the time when unemployment is rising and the Labour party is making training a priority."

That funding is being cut is undeniable, but the balance has been struck so carefully that though ET may prove to be fatally struck, the TECs, though limping a little, are still striding forward as the new training mechanism to revitalise Britain's industry and economy.

## THE ROUND

US dollar 1.9670 (+0.0005)  
German mark 2.9271 (+0.0033)  
Exchange index 94.4 (same)

## STOCK MARKET

FT 30 Share 1582.6 (+7.7)  
FT-SE 100 2040.6 (+4.4)  
New York Dow Jones 2470.30 (+26.49)  
Tokyo Nikkei Ave 22931.80 (-38.01)  
Closing Prices ... Page 39  
Major indices and major changes Page 36

## INTEREST RATES

London: Bank Base 14%  
3-month Interbank 13 3/4% 13 3/4%  
3-month Euribor 13 3/4% 13 3/4%  
US: Prime Rate 10 1/2%  
Federal Funds 7 1/4%  
3-month Treasury Bills 7 08 7/16 7 08 7/16  
30-year bonds 100 1/2 100 3/4

## CURRENCIES

London: New York: £: \$1.9670  
E: DM 2.9271  
E: Sfr 2.4588  
E: FF 2.4812  
E: Yen 252.02  
E: Index 94.4  
ECU £0.701345 SDR £0.734871  
E: ECU1.426831 E: SDR1.368081

## GOLD

London Fixing: AM \$384.85 pm \$385.70  
Close \$384.75-385.25 (£195.75-196.25)  
New York: Comex \$385.50-384.00

## NORTH SEA OIL

Brent (Dec) \$34.50 (\$34.70)  
\* Denotes latest trading price

## TOURIST RATES

	Bank	Bank
	Buy	Sell
Australia \$	2.80	2.80
Austria S	21.50	21.50
Belgium F	63.10	63.10
Canada C	2.38	2.38
Denmark K	11.70	11.70
Finland M	7.37	7.37
France F	228.25	228.25
Germany D	3.055	2.985
Greece Dr	318.00	298.00
Hong Kong \$	11.30	10.75
Ireland P	11.45	10.75
Italy L	2200	2165
Japan Yen	239.10	239.10
Netherlands G	3.435	3.235
Norway Kr	11.82	11.22
Portugal Esc	208.25	208.25
Spain Ptas	161.00	179.00
Sweden Kr	10.75	10.75
Switzerland F	2.555	2.405
Turkey Lira	5700	5200
USA \$	1.9670	1.9670
Yugoslavia D	27.00	20.00

Rates for small denomination bank only as supplied by Barclays Bank PLC. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques.  
Retail Price Index: 129.3 (September)



## INTEREST RATES ROUND-UP

# Warburg blow for Hanson

Fired Term Deposits:		10/25		8/25		5/25		2/25		1/25	
Bancorp	10.25	10.25	8.25	7.25	6.25	5.25	4.25	3.25	2.25	1.25	0.25
"	10.31	10.31	8.31	7.31	6.31	5.31	4.31	3.31	2.31	1.31	0.31
"	10.50	10.50	8.50	7.50	6.50	5.50	4.50	3.50	2.50	1.50	0.50
Lloyds	9.21	9.21	7.21	6.21	5.21	4.21	3.21	2.21	1.21	0.21	0.00
"	9.90	9.90	7.90	6.90	5.90	4.90	3.90	2.90	1.90	0.90	0.00
Mitland	9.51	9.51	7.51	6.51	5.51	4.51	3.51	2.51	1.51	0.51	0.00
"	9.58	9.58	7.58	6.58	5.58	4.58	3.58	2.58	1.58	0.58	0.00
NatWest	9.88	9.88	7.88	6.88	5.88	4.88	3.88	2.88	1.88	0.88	0.00
"	9.88	9.88	7.88	6.88	5.88	4.88	3.88	2.88	1.88	0.88	0.00

Bank	Rate	Min. Bal.	Max. Bal.	Other Info
Bank of Scotland NSAC	9.47	9.50	7.92	2,500; none 031-442-77
Barclays Prime a/c	9.50	9.84	7.87	2,500; none 0604-2420
Co-operative Ultra	8.00	6.20	4.96	7,500; none 071-634-11
			6.40	1,000; none 064-2420

that of Hanson's own **Rolls-**  
er Hoare Govett which **gine group**

New York:	
Dow Jones	2470.30 (+26.49)
Nikkei Composite	311.59 (+3.98)
Tokyo	-
Nikkei Average	22551.80 (-38.01)
Hong Kong:	
Hang Seng	2302.92 (+6.46)
Amsterd.	850.16 (+1.39)
CBS Tendency	93.6 (+0.3)
Sydney: AD	1326.8 (+13.6)
Famifair DAX	1361.49 (+16.03)
Bryussele:	
General	5114.82 (-19.62)
Cenac	419.81 (+1.82)
Rente: CKA Genl	632.1 (-1.00)
London:	
FT - A-All Share	985.68 (+2.13)
FT - "500"	1065.67 (+1.15)
Gulf Finance	166.0 (+1.1)
FT Fixed Interest	98.33 (-0.07)
FT Govt Secs	80.24 (+0.11)
SEAD	1705.9 (+10.11)
DataStream (Datastream)	+104.96 (+0.18)
*Denotes latest trading price	

EQUITIES	
Atlantic Resources	37
Strabright Res	155
CAWV Corp	93
Casino Cairn (50p)	30
Charmour Int Tel (100p)	95 +1
EDU Tel	39
TEFIRM Jaws Tat	37
Faber Prest	170
Reining Euro IT	67 -1
Golden Vale	46
Invergordon	135
Leading La New Everest	2
MIMI	22
M & W Pic	74
Malaysia Capital	55*
Medford Radio	82
Nith Investors	175
Paramount	92

RECENT ISSUES	
Pellcan Gp	36
Process Ind	14
Saxon Healthcare	14
St James Place	6
Smaller IT	93 +1
Suez Ltdform	10
TV Euro Growth	58
Uni Energy	11*
Und Uniform	110 +2
Wig Top Inc	129 +1

RIGHTS ISSUES	
Arcand G/NP	
Braydon N/P	9% -1*
Proct Trop N/P	
Vest NP	
Group going to America	

## MAJOR INDICES MA

New York		RISSE:	
Dow Jones	2470.30 (+26.89)	Thorn EMU	602 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> p (+8p)
S&P Composite	311.59 (+3.81)	Akteweide	382 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> p (+8 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> p)
Tokyo:		GRN	297 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> p (+5p)
Nikkei Average	22351.80 (-38.01)	Hawker Siddoley	398 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> p (+5p)
Hong Kong:		Euro Disney	948 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> p (+11p)
Hang Seng	2932.92 (+0.48)	TVS	85p (+15p)
FTSE Eurotrack	850.16 (+1.35)	Group G	101 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> p (+5p)
Amsterdam:		Scourange	60 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> p (+5p)
CAS Tendency	93.6 (+0.3)	Burns & Cottee	452 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> (+8)
Paris CAC	419.81 (+1.8)	Daegan	715 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> p (+10p)
Frankfurt DAX	1381.49 (+12.05)	Great Portland	217 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> p (+11p)
Brussels:		Rosenberg	98 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> p (+15p)
General	5114.82 (-19.62)	Household Drugg	75 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> p (+10p)
London:		FALLS:	
FT-AirShare	965.66 (+2.13)	Grand Met	551 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> (-9p)
FT-Admco	1005.57 (+1.8)	Steetley	322 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> p (-2p)
FT-Gold Mines	165.0 (-1.0)	Tibury Group	501 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> p (-13p)
FT-Fixed Interest	88.33 (-0.07)	Harworth	422 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> p (-9p)
FT- Govt Secs	80.24 (-0.11)	CE Health	422 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> p (-9p)
FT-World Index	17505	WPP	350 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> (-9p)
FT-Daily Volume	370.1M	Power Corp	105 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> (-12p)
FT-Daily News (Datastream)	104.96 (+0.18)	Closing Prices	
*Denotes latest trading price.			

## RECENT ISSUES

<b>EQUITIES</b>		Pelican Gp	3
Atlantic Resources	37	Protonus Ind	8
Strabright Res	155	Sutton Healthcare	3
CAWV Group	63	St James Place	16
Casino Cairn (50p)		Smaller IT	93 +
Darmouth Inst Tel (100p)	95 +	Suez Navigation	1
ECOL Tech	37	TV Euro Growth	110 +
EFM Jans Tat	37 +	Uni Energy	110 +
Faber Prest	170	Uni Uniform	129 +
Financing Euro IT	67 -	Wig Top App	
Golden Vale			
Invergordon	135		
Leading La New	2		
Mercator	98		
MMI	22		
M & W Pic	74		
Malaysia Capital	53 +		
Medland Baco	82		
Northern Investors	175		
Paramount	97		

See main listing for Water shares

## RIGHTS ISSUES

Ardayan G/N/P	
Bryant Gp N/P	9 1/2 -
Prod Trop N/P	
Viral NP	
Growth prime (in America)	

## MAJOR CHANGES

New York		RISSE:	
Dow Jones	2470.30 (+25.49)	Thorn EMU	602 1/2 (+80)
S&P Composite	311.59 (+3.81)	Atwoods	382 1/2 (+81 1/2)
Tokyo:		GRV	297 1/2 (+50)
Nikkei Average	22351.80 (+38.01)	Hawker Siddoley	398 1/2 (+50)
Hong Kong:		Euro Disney	948 1/2 (+11)
Hester Co	2932.92 (+0.48)	TVS	85 1/2 (+15)
FT-SE Eurotrack	850.16 (+1.35)	Group G	101 1/2 (+50)
Amsterdam:		Scouraging	60 1/2 (+50)
CSX Tendency	93.6 (+0.3)	Burns Control	452 1/2 (+8)
Paris CAC	419.81 (+1.8)	Daegan	715 1/2 (+10)
Frankfurt DAX	1381.49 (+12.05)	Great Portland	217 1/2 (+11)
Brussels:		Rosehaven	98 1/2 (+15)
General	5114.82 (-19.62)	Housebrug	75 1/2 (+15)
London:			
FT-A-A-Share	965.66 (+2.13)	FALLS:	
FT-M	1005.57 (+1.8)	Grand Met	551 1/2 (-50)
FT-Gold Mines	165.0 (-1)	Stealey	322 1/2 (-12)
FT-Fixed Interest	88.33 (-0.07)	Tibury Group	501 1/2 (-130)
FT-Govt Secs	80.24 (-0.11)	Highworth	422 1/2 (-30)
FT-World	17.05	CE Health	422 1/2 (-30)
FT-Over Volume	370.1m	WPP	350 1/2 (-30)
FT-News (Datastream)	104.96 (+0.18)	Power Corp	105 1/2 (-12)
*Denotes latest trading price		Closing Prices	
<h2>RECENT ISSUES</h2>			
<b>EQUITIES</b>			
Atlantic Resources	37	Pelican Gp	3
Strabright Res	155	Proton Ind	8
CAW Group	63	Sutton Healthcare	1
Casino Cairn (50p)		St James Place	6
Darmouth Int (200p)	95 +1	Smaller IT	93 +4
ECU Ltd	37 +1	Suez Navigation	1
EFM Jans Tat	170	TV Euro Gwth	110 +1
Faber Prest	67 -1	Urd Energy	110 +1
Financing Euro IT		Urd Uniform	129 +1
Golden Vale		Wig Top App	
Imvargordon	135		
Leading La New	2		
Marshall	98		
M&W P/C	74		
Malaysia Capital	53 +		
Medland Res	82		
North Investors	175		
Paramount	99		
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## RECENT ISSUES

[illegible]

## RIGHTS ISSUES

Malaysia Capital	25 1/4	Arcadian N/P	1 1/2
Midland Radio	89 +2	Bryant Gp N/P	9 1/2 - 1/4
North Investors	175	Prop Tst N/P	1 1/2
Paramount	8	Vivat N/P	1 1/2
Shennan	87	Genus price is suspended	

## UNLISTED SECURITIES

[illegible]

## INVESTMENT TRUSTS

[illegible]

## FOREIGN EXCHANGES

UP AND FORWARD RATES			OTHER STERLING RATES		
Close	1 month	3 month			
1.9565-1.9875	0.95-0.97p	0.67-0.65p	Argentina austr*	10484	1-10509
2.2665-2.3000	0.36-0.31p	0.27-0.25p	Australia austr	2	2.5240-2.5250
3.2245-3.2500	0.25-0.23p	0.20-0.20p	Brazil cruzeiro *	225	221-226
80.10-80.32	28-29p	71-76p	Canada dollar	0.66	0.63-0.64
1.0917-1.1097	30-31p	80-80p	France franc	163	162-163
2.5954-2.6250	15-14p	39-39p	France drachma	267	267-301
11.8875-12.0000	4-4p	10-10p	Germany mark	19	19.50-20.00
183.87-184.75	4-10p	33-43p	India rupee	35	35-23.55
2.5954-2.6250	15-14p	39-39p	Kuwait dirham	100	100-100
11.8875-12.0000	4-4p	10-10p	Malaysia ringgit	5	5.0000-5.0000
11.4155-11.4240	31p-34p	7p-8p	Mexico peso	7	7.0000-7.0000
9.9135-9.9280	33p-34p	7p-8p	New Zealand dollar	3.12	3.12-3.12
5.9135-5.9280	33p-34p	7p-8p	Spain peseta	166	166-166
25.86-25.95	14p-14p	31p-31p	Singapore dollar	3	3.0000-3.0000
2.4571-2.4604	14p-14p	31p-31p	Switzerland franc	2	2.0000-2.0000
			S Africa rand (nom)	4.9755	4.9550-4.9550
			U A £ crown		

### DOLLAR SPOT RATES

7.925	Denmark	5.6925-5.6975	Italy	1120.5-1121.5
7.085	Germany	1.4895-1.4905	Belgium (Com)	30.69-30.74
7.000	Switzerland	1.2485-1.2495	Hong Kong	7.7875-7.7985
28.48	Netherlands	1.6795-1.6805	Portugal	131.15-131.35
1.685	France	4.9980-5.0030	Spain	93.70-93.80
5.675	Japan	129.25-129.35	Austria	10.48-10.50
8.025				

Rates supplied by Barclays Bank GTS and Excl.

## MONEY MARKETS

14 Finance Hoe 15		EURO MONEY DEPOSITS %				
Week fixed: 14%		Currency	7 day	1 mth	3 mth	6 mth
		Dollar:	7%-7%	7%-8%	8%-8%	8%-8%
		Cash 0-7%				
		Cash 0-7%	8%-7%	8%-8%	8%-11%	8%-8%
		Cash 0-7				
		Cash 0-7	9%-10%	9%-9%	10%-9%	10%-10%
		Cash 10-0				
		Swiss Franc	8%-8	8%-8%	8%-8%	8%-8%
		Cash 0-7				
		Yen:	8%-7%	8%-8%	8%-8%	8%-8%
		Cash 7%-8%				

**BULLION:**  
Ounces \$284.75 PER OZ. Silver

13% 12 mth 12%-12%  
 13% 12 mth 12%-12%  
 7.5% 12 mth 8.0%-7.5%  
 3% 3 mth 13%-13%  
 14 12 mth 12%-12%

**BILLS**  
 allotted: 2250m  
 reserved: 50%

**COINS:** Per coin (Ex VAT)  
 Britannia: \$395.00-401.00 (€201.00-204.00)  
 Kruggerand: \$384.00-387.00 (€195.00-197.50)  
 Mapleleaf (1/10): \$395.00-401.00 (€201.00-204.00)  
 American Eagles: \$395.00-401.00 (€201.00-204.00)  
 New Sovereigns: \$80.00-82.00 (€45.75-48.75)  
 50p

Uplift: \$384.75-388.25 Low: \$384.75-384.50  
 High: \$386.00-388.50 Cash: \$384.00-384.50

last wk £13.0693%

Low		Close		Open		High		Low		Close		Vol	
Three month ECU													
2.057	0	2.061	0	2.058	0	2.061	0	2.057	0	2.061	0	2.057	0
U.S. Treasury Bond													
88.56	88.56	88.56	88.56	88.56	88.56	88.56	88.56	88.56	88.56	88.56	88.56	88.56	88.56
Long Bill													
92.00	92.00	92.00	92.00	92.00	92.00	92.00	92.00	92.00	92.00	92.00	92.00	92.00	92.00
Japanese Gov't Bond													
91.03	91.03	91.03	91.03	91.03	91.03	91.03	91.03	91.03	91.03	91.03	91.03	91.03	91.03
Three month interest													
2.057	0	2.061	0	2.058	0	2.061	0	2.057	0	2.061	0	2.057	0
Six month interest													
2.057	0	2.061	0	2.058	0	2.061	0	2.057	0	2.061	0	2.057	0
Nine month interest													
2.057	0	2.061	0	2.058	0	2.061	0	2.057	0	2.061	0	2.057	0
One year interest													
2.057	0	2.061	0	2.058	0	2.061	0	2.057	0	2.061	0	2.057	0
Two year interest													
2.057	0	2.061	0	2.058	0	2.061	0	2.057	0	2.061	0	2.057	0
Three year interest													
2.057	0	2.061	0	2.058	0	2.061	0	2.057	0	2.061	0	2.057	0
Four year interest													
2.057	0	2.061	0	2.058	0	2.061	0	2.057	0	2.061	0	2.057	0
Five year interest													
2.057	0	2.061	0	2.058	0	2.061	0	2.057	0	2.061	0	2.057	0
Six year interest													
2.057	0	2.061	0	2.058	0	2.061	0	2.057	0	2.061	0	2.057	0
Seven year interest													
2.057	0	2.061	0	2.058	0	2.061	0	2.057	0	2.061	0	2.057	0
Eight year interest													
2.057	0	2.061	0	2.058	0	2.061	0	2.057	0	2.061	0	2.057	0
Nine year interest													
2.057	0	2.061	0	2.058	0	2.061	0	2.057	0	2.061	0	2.057	0
Ten year interest													
2.057	0	2.061	0	2.058	0	2.061	0	2.057	0	2.061	0	2.057	0

## ADDITIONS

		LONDON METAL EXCHANGE					
		Official prices/previous day		Retail			
(£/tonne)		Cash	3 month	Val	Val		
Copper Grade A	1321.0-1322.0	1319.0-1320.0	619150				
Lead	590.0-598.5	575.0-578.5	39825				
Zinc Spice H <sup>1</sup>	1276.0-1277.0	1282.0-1284.0	88475				
Tin	6150.0-6200.0	6195.0-6200.0	6505				
Aluminium H <sup>1</sup>	800.0-1592.0	814.0-1616.0	500 100				
Nickel	8600.0-8825.0	8350.0-8375.0	17958				
1 Cent per Troy oz. (= 35.76 grams)							
		<b>LONDON BEEF &amp; MUTTON COMMISSION</b>					
<b>FUTURES (lb/g)</b>		<b>MEAT &amp; LIVESTOCK COMMISSION</b>					
<b>Live Pig Contract</b>		<b>Avgs (fatstock prices at representative markets on November 8)</b>					
<b>FUTURES</b>	<b>Nov</b>	<b>Dec</b>	<b>Close</b>	<b>(/cwt lb)</b>	<b>Pig</b>	<b>Sheep</b>	<b>Cattle</b>
Nov	95.5	97.0	97.0	78.67	158.14	104.2	104.2
Dec	96.0	97.5	97.5	78.67	158.14	104.2	104.2
Jan	97.0	98.0	98.0	78.67	158.14	104.2	104.2
Mar	97.0	98.0	98.0	78.67	158.14	104.2	104.2
May	97.0	98.0	98.0	78.67	158.14	104.2	104.2
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Jan	97.0	98.0	98.0	78.67	158.14	104.2	104.2
Mar	97.0	98.0	98.0	78.67	158.14	104.2	104.2
May	97.0	98.0	98.0	78.67	158.14	104.2	104.2
Aug	97.0	98.0</					

# Stricken Qantas to cut jobs and flights

From REUTER IN SYDNEY

QANTAS Airways says its financial position is critical, partly because of the rise in fuel prices caused by the Gulf tensions.

Australia's state-owned international carrier said it would cut 500 jobs by March, sell five Boeing 747s earlier than planned and cut flying hours by 14 per cent in the year to June 30. John Ward, the chief executive, said: "Our financial position has reached a critical point where immediate action is necessary to contain costs and improve our competitiveness."

Qantas has about 17,000 staff. The Labor government said on Thursday that it planned to sell 49 per cent of the airline and would allow foreign investors to take up to 35 per cent.

Qantas is due shortly to announce 1989-90 results that analysts believe will reveal a small profit after the sale of several aircraft.

Qantas said in a statement

that the early sale of five aircraft would bring to nine the number to be sold over the next 18 months. It had planned 202,000 flying hours in 1990-91 but this would now be cut to 173,000.

Mr Ward said events in the Gulf would push up Qantas's fuel bill in 1990-91 by an estimated A\$318 million (£126 million). "We're in a critical period. Our industry is characterised by huge costs and very fine margins. Small downturns in traffic and small increases in costs play havoc with profitability."

Australian airlines were badly affected by an eight-month domestic pilots' dispute which ended early this year, cutting inbound tourism which is only now recovering. Qantas said in September that it needed A\$10 billion in funds by the year 2000 to finance a fleet expansion programme and lower its debt-to-equity ratio.

Air New Zealand showed

cautious interest in Australia's decision to sell up to 40 per cent of Australian Airlines, its domestic carrier, and 35 per cent of Qantas to foreign investors. Bob Hawke, the Australian prime minister, said that the move would offer career opportunities for the New Zealand national carrier to enter the Australian market.

Richard Gates, Air New Zealand's director of public relations, said: "It's an interesting change in policy and obviously we'll have to consider that in light of our own commercial objectives."

Air New Zealand is 35 per cent owned by British Investments.

The airline, in which Qantas has a 19.9 per cent stake, has long complained that the Australian-owned Ansett New Zealand has been allowed to fly internally in New Zealand, while it has been blocked from flying Australian domestic routes.

# Stakis wins High Court battle for casino deal

By OUR CITY STAFF

STAKIS, the leisure group, finally succeeded in its protracted High Court battle to establish the right to purchase the Barracuda casino in London's Baker Street for £11.5 million from Arthur Andersen, the receiver.

The casino, one of the largest in London and worth an estimated £14 million on the open market, is part of the wreckage of Leisure Investments, which collapsed in May after a last-ditch merger in January with Cornwell.

The Barracuda has a turnover of some £70 million and returns an annual pre-tax profit of about £1.5 million.

After the judgment, both Andros Stakis, the company's chief executive, and Peter Hughes, of Cork Gully, the receiver, who negotiated the sale on behalf of Arthur Andersen, confirmed that they now expect to conclude the deal.

Stakis had contracted to buy the casino in June after last minute legal difficulties had caused the expiry of an earlier agreement between the receivers and London Clubs, the former gaming division of Grand Metropolitan.

Before Stakis could complete, however, London Clubs sought an order from the High Court to reinstate its own deal.

The action was for estoppel and relief from forfeiture.

Costs in the case, which are expected to be well in excess of £1 million, will be resolved at an adjourned hearing.

# Banham does the government a favour with his pay message



KENNETH FLEET

John Banham, the director general of the Confederation of British Industry, is the most accomplished of whingers, which is one reason many leading businessmen choose not to be members of the CBI choir. Even his fan club, which rejoices in special pleading, is not happy with his "get your act together" board divided is ripe for takeover" attack on the government at the end of this year's CBI conference. In voicing his and the CBI's support for Mrs Thatcher's political opponents, he may have gone too far.

Yet Mr Banham may also have performed the best service he conceivably could for the prime minister; not in his conference speech, though in that he did insist that bringing inflation down remained the government's first priority, but in writing Britain's bosses to cut by half the going rate of pay settlements. He has told them that within the new constraints of the exchange-rate mechanism, industry cannot afford to let unit wage costs rise by more than 2 per cent a year. Manufacturing wage costs went up in August by nearly five times that figure.

The combination of Mr Banham and the ERM straitjacket has struck a hitherto unknown fear into chief executives — the fear of knowing that there is no easy way out from the cost consequences of excessive pay settlements.

A depreciating pound is no longer on the agenda. What is on the agenda is a recession which, as the Chancellor said or implied in his autumn statement, means a fall in manufacturing output next year, minimal (½ per cent) economic growth, lower company profits and rising unemployment.

In this situation, the prime minister has no need to exhort the private sector to restrict pay settlements to a minimum, but to ensure that the government itself sets them a good example in the public sector. She may safely leave the rest to the market, where fear is taking over from greed on both sides of the negotiating table. Unions may continue to press for inflation plus agreements, but in the coming pay round, they will be few and far between. The crude alternatives for companies are performance (profit) and cutting back, and for employees, restraint and jobs. The Chancellor, I think, is already on firm ground in forecasting a halving of the rate of inflation from 10.9 per

cent now to 5.5 per cent by the fourth quarter of next year. Falling inflation is one of the "fundamentals" for keeping the sterling exchange rate within its permitted band against the mark and allowing the Chancellor to make further cuts in bank base rates. He is keen to make them to restrict the depth of the recession and to revive the government's political fortunes, and the City senses that cuts will be made — 1 per cent before mortgage rates are recalculated in January and another similarly helpful cut, taking base rates down to 12 per cent by the Budget in March.

But he is not the man to take dangerous risks with the exchange rate, which is now the controlling factor. Sterling may face three tests in the coming weeks and months.

□ A Gulf war, which would demonstrate that the pound is still accepted as a petro-currency and thus better protected from panic selling than it is not.

□ A conviction in the markets that Mrs Thatcher will lose the next general election.

□ A bearish assessment of the economic and financial consequences of Neil Kinnock.

Mr Major needs to have confidence on all three counts before he signals the next base rate cut. If he sends such a signal, it could mark the turning point for the equity market.

# Parkland slips into the red

By PHILIP PANGALOS

PARKLAND Textile (Holdings), the Bradford woollen yarn, worsted cloth and clothing manufacturer, has cut its interim dividend after sliding into the red at the half-way stage.

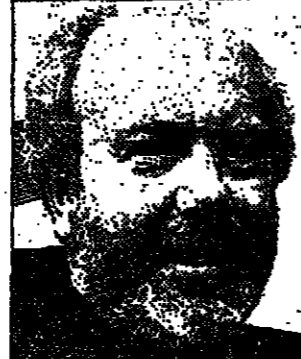
The group, which issued a profits warning last month, fell to a pre-tax loss of £517,000 in the half year to end-August, against profits of £1.48 million last time.

The interim dividend has been cut to 1.5p (2.2p), after a 4.7p loss per share (13.3p earnings). Figures were hampered by an exceptional loss of £520,000 after "a severe fall in the wool price", down 23 per cent between July and September, and reorganisation costs in the company's clothing and fabric businesses.

Michael Rowley, finance director, said margins had been under pressure due to poor retail trading in Britain and the strength of sterling, which had made exporting more difficult.

Turnover, excluding inter-company sales, fell from £29.5 million to £27.6 million.

# American switch at Laura Ashley



Revers: compensation

LAURA Ashley, the fashion and home furnishings retailer, has undergone a second boardroom shake-out since the group was rescued from near-bankruptcy three months ago.

Peter Revers, chairman and chief executive of Laura Ashley's North American division, is to leave.

The departure of Mr Revers, who has been with the group since 1970, follows that of John James, who resigned as chief executive of the group in August. Mr James has not yet been replaced.

Mr Revers's replacement is Terry Smith, who becomes a main board director of the group as well as the chairman and chief executive of the North American division. He has been with the group since 1983 and became chief operating officer of the North American division in 1986.

The Laura Ashley board is further strengthened by the appointment of Hugh Blakey Webb as non-executive deputy chairman.

He is a senior partner with Coopers & Lybrand Deloitte

# Downgrading for Japanese banks

Moody's Investors Service, the American rating agency, has downgraded the debt ratings of four leading Japanese banks, including Sumitomo Bank, which has been linked to recent scandals involving loans to stock and property speculators (see Joseph writes).

Sumitomo and Mitsubishi Banks went from AAA to AA-1, Long-Term Credit Bank of Japan from AA-2 to A-1, and Tokai Bank from AA-2 to AA-3. About \$3.7 billion in securities are affected at Sumitomo, \$2.9 billion at Mitsubishi, \$5.8 billion at Long-Term Credit Bank and \$500 million at Tokai.

# Central bank looms larger on horizon

The European Community may not yet have embarked on an irreversible course toward a single European currency but you do not need a strong telescope to see a European central bank, which looks remarkably like the Bundesbank, on the horizon.

The bank, or rather the central banking system, for the scheme embraces national central banks in each Community country, would be built on four major principles. As Karl Otto Pöhl, the Bundesbank president, explained them at an American Express Bank gathering on Thursday, they are: a commitment to stable prices (zero inflation), independence from governments, responsibility for monetary policy in all member countries, and the lawful refusal to print money to cover budget deficits. Herr Pöhl claimed "a very high degree of agreement" among governments and central bankers, which in itself is remarkable. No politician can claim he has not been warned.

Robin Leigh-Pemberton, the Governor of the Bank of England, favours both independence and the Pöhl-shaped draft model for a Community central bank which will shortly come out of the central bankers committee which Herr Pöhl chairs. The commitment to

sound money — the belief that inflation is a deadly sin — is the most important thing, according to Sir George Blunden who retired as deputy Governor earlier this year. Given that commitment by government, the best place to run monetary policy is the central bank.

In Sir George's view, the central bank would insulate printing and controlling money from politics. He thought a European central bank in the context of monetary union, provided it were made accountable to the elected rulers, might provide the best insulation. Independence and accountability are the hallmarks of English and English compromise that even Mrs Thatcher might accept.

When the statutes of the Community central banking system come to be promulgated, Mrs Thatcher may not be there and, conceivably, nor will be present Governor. Well into his second term, Mr Leigh-Pemberton has developed into a first-class Governor: able to master his brief, perceptive, acute, charming and resilient. From the press he received in 1983 when he appeared from nowhere (or rather the chairmanship of National Westminster Bank) as Mrs Thatcher's choice for governor, you might have thought he held his cricket bat at the wrong end. Now he has become a difficult act to follow.

The favourites to succeed him, and if

he runs his full second term, it may be Neil Kinnock who will decide, are presently Sir David Scholey (Warburg) from without, and "Eddie" George, the deputy Governor, from within.

David Walker, chairman of the Securities and Investments Board, and like Sir David, a non-executive member of the court, has slipped a little and two other names have been chalked on the board: George Younger, who has given up his political career for personal reasons but also to become chairman of the Royal Bank of Scotland, and Lord Alexander of Weedon, a real dark horse, who is undergoing a rapid course in banking as chairman of NatWest.

Mr Younger has the friendship and loyalty of the prime minister and if it made sense to have banker in Threadneedle Street wise in the ways of politics, he would have the right credentials.

At 53, Robert Alexander has time on his side, as well as commanding height (6ft 6in), the impressive skills of a leading advocate and former chairman of the Bar Council (he would make the third barrister governor in a row), and the resolution to carve out a City career, which, I suspect, may well extend beyond the Takeover Panel and NatWest.

## UNIT LINKED INSURANCE INVESTMENTS

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Monthly performance figures show value of £190 based on offer to offer prices without income re-invested and ranking within sector. Yearly figures are based on offer to bid prices with income re-invested. — Unit trust founded within last year  
† PEP scheme available.

Franch. Gilt & Conv	90.10	95.85	101.7	33	84.6	28	↑ FS Global Bond	20.74	22.18	100.8	8	85.4
Misc. Preference & Pl	33.53	35.70	93.8	55	74.8	47	Caribbean Intl. Fixed Int	21.19	22.31	100.9	7	92.0
Security Gilt	22.03	22.71	100.4	44	95.3	25	Legal & General Intl. Bond	38.37	41.84	101.2	4	63.5
Intl. London Extn. Inc	54.05	57.50	107.5	14	95.7	24	NH&A International Bond	48.18	48.55	99.8	15	88.6

هكذا من النحل

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# Portfolio

## PLATINUM

From your Portfolio Platinum card check your cash share price movements on this page only. Add these prices to your running total for the week and check this against the weekly dividend figure on this page. If it matches this figure, you have won outright or a share of the total weekly prize money stated. If you win, follow the claim procedure on the back of your card. You must always have your card available when claiming. Game rules appear on the back of your card.

No.	Company	Group	Cash or Div
1	BSA Ltd	Industrials E-K	
2	Synthon	Industrials S-Z	
3	Re Polythene	Industrials A-D	
4	Dela	Industrials	
5	T & N (nt)	Industrials S-Z	
6	Transport Dev	Transport	
7	Wates	Property	
8	Davey	Industrials A-D	
9	Blackburn Gp	Industrials	
10	Radcliff (nt)	Industrials Pub	
11	Northern	Industrials L-K	
12	Wholesale Finings	Industrials	
13	Kwik Save	Foodst	
14	Quelch Group	Monoc/Aircraft	
15	Glynwed (nt)	Industrials E-K	
16	BICC (nt)	Electricals	
17	Bilton (nt)	Property	
18	Calderdale Shipw	Foodst	
19	Portsmouth Sand	Newspapers/Pub	
20	Black & White	Electricals	
21	Oil (nt)	Oil/Gas	
22	Parsons	Industrials L-K	
23	Blanchisse	Property	
24	Racal Telecom (nt)	Electricals	
25	Bliffdown (nt)	Foodst	
26	Lucas (nt)	Monoc/Aircraft	
27	Dumfries	Electricals	
28	Jerrard (nt)	Textiles	
29	Mind	Electricals	
30	Johnson Matthey	Industrials E-K	
31	LASMO (nt)	Oil/Gas	
32	Scott TV	Leisure	
33	Br Aerospace (nt)	Monoc/Aircraft	
34	Flintco (nt)	Industrials E-K	
35	Rank Ory (nt)	Industrials L-K	
36	Br Perfection (nt)	Oil/Gas	
37	Cable Wireless (nt)	Electricals	
38	Bur & WA 'A'	Leisure	
39	Servco Trust	Water	
40	Forster (nt)	Textiles	
41	Br Airways (nt)	Transport	
42	F&O D&S (nt)	Transport	
43	Scott Walker	Leisure	
44	Scott Walker	Industrials L-K	
45	Scott Walker	Daily News	

Please take into account any minus signs

Weekly Dividend						
Please make a note of your daily totals for the weekly dividend of £2,000 in today's newspaper.						
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun

There were no valid claims for the Portfolio Platinum prize yesterday. The £2,000 will be added to Monday's competition.

## BRITISH FUNDS

No.	Company	Group	Cash or Div
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SHORTS (Under Five Years)			
No.	Company	Group	Cash or Div
1	BSA Ltd	Industrials E-K	
2	Synthon	Industrials S-Z	
3	Re Polythene	Industrials A-D	
4	Dela	Industrials	
5	T & N (nt)	Industrials S-Z	
6	Transport Dev	Transport	
7	Wates	Property	
8	Davey	Industrials A-D	
9	Blackburn Gp	Industrials	
10	Radcliff (nt)	Industrials Pub	
11	Northern	Industrials L-K	
12	Wholesale Finings	Industrials	
13	Kwik Save	Foodst	
14	Quelch Group	Monoc/Aircraft	
15	Glynwed (nt)	Industrials E-K	
16	BICC (nt)	Electricals	
17	Bilton (nt)	Property	
18	Calderdale Shipw	Foodst	
19	Portsmouth Sand	Newspapers/Pub	
20	Black & White	Electricals	
21	Oil (nt)	Oil/Gas	
22	Parsons	Industrials L-K	
23	Blanchisse	Property	
24	Racal Telecom (nt)	Electricals	
25	Bliffdown (nt)	Foodst	
26	Lucas (nt)	Monoc/Aircraft	
27	Dumfries	Electricals	
28	Jerrard (nt)	Textiles	
29	Mind	Electricals	
30	Johnson Matthey	Industrials E-K	
31	LASMO (nt)	Oil/Gas	
32	Scott TV	Leisure	
33	Br Aerospace (nt)	Monoc/Aircraft	
34	Flintco (nt)	Industrials E-K	
35	Rank Ory (nt)	Industrials L-K	
36	Br Perfection (nt)	Oil/Gas	
37	Cable Wireless (nt)	Electricals	
38	Bur & WA 'A'	Leisure	
39	Servco Trust	Water	
40	Forster (nt)	Textiles	
41	Br Airways (nt)	Transport	
42	F&O D&S (nt)	Transport	
43	Scott Walker	Leisure	
44	Scott Walker	Industrials L-K	
45	Scott Walker	Daily News	

FIVE TO FIFTEEN YEARS			
No.	Company	Group	Cash or Div
1	BSA Ltd	Industrials E-K	
2	Synthon	Industrials S-Z	
3	Re Polythene	Industrials A-D	
4	Dela	Industrials	
5	T & N (nt)	Industrials S-Z	
6	Transport Dev	Transport	
7	Wates	Property	
8	Davey	Industrials A-D	
9	Blackburn Gp	Industrials	
10	Radcliff (nt)	Industrials Pub	
11	Northern	Industrials L-K	
12	Wholesale Finings	Industrials	
13	Kwik Save	Foodst	
14	Quelch Group	Monoc/Aircraft	
15	Glynwed (nt)	Industrials E-K	
16	BICC (nt)	Electricals	
17	Bilton (nt)	Property	
18	Calderdale Shipw	Foodst	
19	Portsmouth Sand	Newspapers/Pub	
20	Black & White	Electricals	
21	Oil (nt)	Oil/Gas	
22	Parsons	Industrials L-K	
23	Blanchisse	Property	
24	Racal Telecom (nt)	Electricals	
25	Bliffdown (nt)	Foodst	
26	Lucas (nt)	Monoc/Aircraft	
27	Dumfries	Electricals	
28	Jerrard (nt)	Textiles	
29	Mind	Electricals	
30	Johnson Matthey	Industrials E-K	
31	LASMO (nt)	Oil/Gas	
32	Scott TV	Leisure	
33	Br Aerospace (nt)	Monoc/Aircraft	
34	Flintco (nt)	Industrials E-K	
35	Rank Ory (nt)	Industrials L-K	
36	Br Perfection (nt)	Oil/Gas	
37	Cable Wireless (nt)	Electricals	
38	Bur & WA 'A'	Leisure	
39	Servco Trust	Water	
40	Forster (nt)	Textiles	
41	Br Airways (nt)	Transport	
42	F&O D&S (nt)	Transport	
43	Scott Walker	Leisure	
44	Scott Walker	Industrials L-K	
45	Scott Walker	Daily News	

OVER FIFTEEN YEARS			
No.	Company	Group	Cash or Div
1	BSA Ltd	Industrials E-K	
2	Synthon	Industrials S-Z	
3	Re Polythene	Industrials A-D	
4	Dela	Industrials	
5	T & N (nt)	Industrials S-Z	
6	Transport Dev	Transport	
7	Wates	Property	
8	Davey	Industrials A-D	
9	Blackburn Gp	Industrials	
10	Radcliff (nt)	Industrials Pub	
11	Northern	Industrials L-K	
12	Wholesale Finings	Industrials	
13	Kwik Save	Foodst	
14	Quelch Group	Monoc/Aircraft	
15	Glynwed (nt)	Industrials E-K	
16	BICC (nt)	Electricals	
17	Bilton (nt)	Property	
18	Calderdale Shipw	Foodst	
19	Portsmouth Sand	Newspapers/Pub	
20	Black & White	Electricals	
21	Oil (nt)	Oil/Gas	
22	Parsons	Industrials L-K	
23	Blanchisse	Property	
24	Racal Telecom (nt)	Electricals	
25	Bliffdown (nt)	Foodst	
26	Lucas (nt)	Monoc/Aircraft	
27	Dumfries	Electricals	
28	Jerrard (nt)	Textiles	
29	Mind	Electricals	
30	Johnson Matthey	Industrials E-K	
31	LASMO (nt)	Oil/Gas	
32	Scott TV	Leisure	
33	Br Aerospace (nt)	Monoc/Aircraft	
34	Flintco (nt)	Industrials E-K	
35	Rank Ory (nt)	Industrials L-K	
36	Br Perfection (nt)	Oil/Gas	
37	Cable Wireless (nt)	Electricals	
38	Bur & WA 'A'	Leisure	
39	Servco Trust	Water	
40	Forster (nt)	Textiles	
41	Br Airways (nt)	Transport	
42	F&O D&S (nt)	Transport	
43	Scott Walker	Leisure	
44	Scott Walker	Industrials L-K	
45	Scott Walker	Daily News	

UNDATED			
No.	Company	Group	Cash or Div
1	BSA Ltd	Industrials E-K	
2	Synthon	Industrials S-Z	
3	Re Polythene	Industrials A-D	
4	Dela	Industrials	
5	T & N (nt)	Industrials S-Z	
6	Transport Dev	Transport	
7	Wates	Property	
8	Davey	Industrials A-D	
9	Blackburn Gp	Industrials	
10	Radcliff (nt)	Industrials Pub	
11	Northern	Industrials L-K	
12	Wholesale Finings	Industrials	
13	Kwik Save	Foodst	
14	Quelch Group	Monoc/Aircraft	
15	Glynwed (nt)	Industrials E-K	
16	BICC (nt)	Electricals	
17	Bilton (nt)	Property	
18	Calderdale Shipw	Foodst	
19	Portsmouth Sand	Newspapers/Pub	
20	Black & White	Electricals	
21	Oil (nt)	Oil/Gas	
22	Parsons	Industrials L-K	
23	Blanchisse	Property	
24	Racal Telecom (nt)	Electricals	
25	Bliffdown (nt)	Foodst	
26	Lucas (nt)	Monoc/Aircraft	
27	Dumfries	Electricals	
28	Jerrard (nt)	Textiles	
29	Mind	Electricals	
30	Johnson Matthey	Industrials E-K	
31	LASMO (nt)	Oil/Gas	
32	Scott TV	Leisure	
33	Br Aerospace (nt)	Monoc/Aircraft	
34	Flintco (nt)	Industrials E-K	
35	Rank Ory (nt)	Industrials L-K	
36	Br Perfection (nt)	Oil/Gas	
37	Cable Wireless (nt)	Electricals	
38	Bur & WA 'A'	Leisure	
39	Servco Trust	Water	
40	Forster (nt)	Textiles	
41	Br Airways (nt)	Transport	
42	F&O D&S (nt)	Transport	
43	Scott Walker	Leisure	
44	Scott Walker	Industrials L-K	
45	Scott Walker	Daily News	

INDEX-LINKED			
No.	Company	Group	Cash or Div
1	BSA Ltd	Industrials E-K	
2	Synthon	Industrials S-Z	
3	Re Polythene	Industrials A-D	
4	Dela	Industrials	
5	T & N (nt)	Industrials S-Z	
6	Transport Dev	Transport	
7	Wates	Property	
8	Davey	Industrials A-D	
9	Blackburn Gp	Industrials	
10	Radcliff (nt)	Industrials Pub	
11	Northern	Industrials L-K	
12	Wholesale Finings	Industrials	
13	Kwik Save	Foodst	
14	Quelch Group	Monoc/Aircraft	
15	Glynwed (nt)	Industrials E-K	
16	BICC (nt)	Electricals	
17	Bilton (nt)	Property	
18	Calderdale Shipw	Foodst	
19	Portsmouth Sand	Newspapers/Pub	
20	Black & White	Electricals	
21	Oil (nt)	Oil/Gas	
22	Parsons	Industrials L-K	
23	Blanchisse	Property	
24	Racal Telecom (nt)	Electricals	
25	Bliffdown (nt)	Foodst	
26	Lucas (nt)	Monoc/Aircraft	
27	Dumfries	Electricals	
28	Jerrard (nt)	Textiles	
29	Mind	Electricals	
30	Johnson Matthey	Industrials E-K	
31	LASMO (nt)	Oil/Gas	
32	Scott TV	Leisure	
33	Br Aerospace (nt)	Monoc/Aircraft	
34	Flintco (nt)	Industrials E-K	
35	Rank Ory (nt)	Industrials L-K	
36	Br Perfection (nt)	Oil/Gas	
37	Cable Wireless (nt)	Electricals	
38	Bur & WA 'A'	Leisure	
39	Servco Trust	Water	
40	Forster (nt)	Textiles	
41	Br Airways (nt)	Transport	
42	F&O D&S (nt)	Transport	
43	Scott Walker	Leisure	
44	Scott Walker	Industrials L-K	
45	Scott Walker	Daily News	

BANKS, DISCOUNT, HP			
No.	Company	Group	Cash or Div
1	BSA Ltd	Industrials E-K	
2	Synthon	Industrials S-Z	
3	Re Polythene	Industrials A-D	
4	Dela	Industrials	
5	T & N (nt)	Industrials S-Z	
6	Transport Dev	Transport	
7	Wates	Property	
8	Davey	Industrials A-D	
9	Blackburn Gp	Industrials	
10	Radcliff (nt)	Industrials Pub	
11	Northern	Industrials L-K	
12	Wholesale Finings	Industrials	
13	Kwik Save	Foodst	
14	Quelch Group	Monoc/Aircraft	
15	Glynwed (nt)	Industrials E-K	
16	BICC (nt)	Electricals	
17	Bilton (nt)	Property	
18	Calderdale Shipw	Foodst	
19	Portsmouth Sand	Newspapers/Pub	
20	Black & White	Electricals	
21	Oil (nt)	Oil/Gas	
22	Parsons	Industrials L-K	
23	Blanchisse	Property	
24	Racal Telecom (nt)	Electricals	
25	Bliffdown (nt)	Foodst	
26	Lucas (nt)	Monoc/Aircraft	
27	Dumfries	Electricals	
28	Jerrard (nt)	Textiles	
29	Mind	Electricals	
30	Johnson Matthey	Industrials E-K	
31	LASMO (nt)	Oil/Gas	
32	Scott TV	Leisure	
33	Br Aerospace (nt)	Monoc/Aircraft	
34	Flintco (nt)	Industrials E-K	
35	Rank Ory (nt)	Industrials L-K	
36	Br Perfection (nt)	Oil/Gas	
37	Cable Wireless (nt)	Electricals	
38	Bur & WA 'A'	Leisure	
39	Servco Trust	Water	
40	Forster (nt)	Textiles	
41	Br Airways (nt)	Transport	
42	F&O D&S (nt)	Transport	
43	Scott Walker	Leisure	
44	Scott Walker	Industrials L-K	
45	Scott Walker	Daily News	

## STOCK EXCHANGE PRICES

# Shares mark time

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings begin November 5. Dealings end November 16. Contango day November 19. Settlement day November 26.  
 \$Forward bargains are permitted on two previous business days.  
 Prices recorded are at market close. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close, but adjustments are made when a stock is ex-dividend. Where one price is quoted, it is a middle price. Changes, yields and price earnings ratios are based on middle prices. (nt) denotes Alpha Stocks.  
 (VOLUMES PAGE 35)

1980	High	Low	Company	Price	Group	Cash or Div	%	P
320	195	20	Hawthorne	220	220	—	15.3	5
310	210	20	Harland & Wolff	220	220	—	15.3	7
300	210	20	Harland & Wolff	220	220	—	15.3	7
290	210	20	Harland & Wolff	220	220	—	15.3	7
280	210	20	Harland & Wolff	220	220	—	15.3	7
270	210	20	Harland & Wolff	220	220	—	15.3	7
260	210	20	Harland & Wolff	220	220	—	15.3	7
250	210	20	Harland & Wolff	220	220	—	15.3	7
240	210	20	Harland & Wolff	220	220	—	15.3	7
230	210	20	Harland & Wolff	220	220	—	15.3	7
220	210	20	Harland & Wolff	220	220	—	15.3	7
210	210	20	Harland & Wolff	220	220	—	15.3	7
200	210	20	Harland & Wolff	220	220	—	15.3	7
190	210	20	Harland & Wolff	220	220	—	15.3	7
180	210	20	Harland & Wolff	220	220	—	15.3	7
170	210	20	Harland & Wolff	220	220	—	15.3	7
160	210	20	Harland & Wolff	220	220	—	15.3	7
150	210	20	Harland & Wolff	220	220	—	15.3	7
140	210	20	Harland & Wolff	220	220	—	15.3	7
130	210	20	Harland & Wolff	220	220	—	15.3	7
120	210	20	Harland & Wolff	220	220	—	15.3	7
110	210	20	Harland & Wolff	220	220	—	15.3	7
100	210	20	Harland & Wolff	220	220	—	15.3	7
90	210	20	Harland & Wolff	220	220	—	15.3	7
80	210	20	Harland & Wolff	220	220	—	15.3	7
70	210	20	Harland & Wolff	220	220	—	15.3	7
60	210	20	Harland & Wolff	220	220	—	15.3	7
50	210	20	Harland & Wolff	220	220	—	15.3	7
40	210	20	Harland & Wolff	220	220	—	15.3	7
30	210	20	Harland & Wolff	220	220	—	15.3	7
20	210	20	Harland & Wolff	220	220	—	15.3	7
10	210	20	Harland & Wolff	220	220	—	15.3	7
0	210	20	Harland & Wolff	220	220	—	15.3	7



WEEKEND MONEY

LETTERS

Societies adapt to change

From the director-general of The Building Societies Association  
Sir, Peter Rein (Letters, November 3) suggests that it would be alarming to relax controls on building societies, and that this would be to the detriment of the small investor and the owner-occupier. He cites the "Savings and Loans" debacle in the USA and says that the mind boggles at the thought of there having been deregulation of building societies at the start of the last boom. He suggests that many people would have lost their life savings and at least 20 to 30 per cent of societies would have gone to the wall.  
This is nonsense. The experience of the past few years has been that building societies have diversified both modestly and cautiously, and as a result they can boast profitability that compares very favourably with that of banks. The American thrift crisis was not caused by deregulation, but rather by an inadequate supervisory mechanism.  
Mr Rein suggests that we are justifying new legislation for building societies on the grounds that the Abbey National has converted and the Alliance and Leicester has purchased a bank. This is not correct. These points are merely made as an indication



Ernie's nature

From the director of National Savings  
Sir, Mr Gee and Mr Wallis (Letters, November 3) make some good points on Ernie and random numbers.  
Mr Gee reminds us that we now have standard odds and defines "random" as haphazard and irregular. Mr Wallis argues that the same number could be chosen at random in the same draw, but seems to think that we are making checks to stop this happening.  
I can assure Mr Wallis that the same numbers do indeed come up in the same draw —

perhaps 20 times a month. We do of course check Ernie's numbers. We are only allowed to give a winning number one prize in a draw. So if the number comes up twice it gets the higher prize, and the lower prize goes to another winning number.  
In National Savings we would be worried if the same number never came up twice — Mr Wallis is quite right on this. The Government Actuary is not checking on the basis that the same number would only come up once.  
He is checking to ensure that Ernie's numbers are random in the widest meaning of that term. And Ernie's monthly check-up has always given him a clean bill of health.  
Yours faithfully,  
JOHN A. PATTERSON,  
Director of Savings,  
Department of National Savings,  
Charles House,  
375 Kensington High Street,  
W14.

From Mr Austin G. Feeney  
Sir, I found your article on Ernie (October 20) most interesting. Until recently I held the maximum holding of £10,000 worth of bonds. I have never won more than a £100, with a number of £50 prizes. At the present moment I hold £7,000 worth of bonds which I soon plan to cash in as I am convinced, like your reader John Duncan, that something is amiss.  
I have been doing independent research into Ernie for the past three years. I travel all over the UK with my job, and I have spoken to hundreds, and I mean hundreds, of people who have anywhere between £10 to £10,000 invested with Ernie. I have yet to meet anyone who has received more than a £1,000 prize. I would truly and sincerely love to hear from any of *The Times* readers, or indeed any of the 28,000 people who hold £10,000 worth of bonds, and the 400,000 who hold £1,000 or more.  
Yours sincerely,  
AUSTIN G. FEENEY,  
39 Filby Road,  
Swaffham, Norfolk.

Portfolio PLATINUM

For readers who may have missed a copy of *The Times* this week, we repeat below the week's Portfolio price changes (today's are on page 39).

Share	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Week Total
1	+4	+4	+5	+7	+6		
2	+7	+5	+7	+2	+3		
3	+3	+6	+2	+2	+1		
4	+2	+3	+7	+5	+5		
5	+5	+4	+4	+1	+2		
6	+7	+5	+8	+2	+5		
7	+5	+6	+5	+5	+2		
8	+3	+3	+5	+6	+6		
9	+4	+4	+3	+2	+3		
10	+3	+8	+4	+2	+1		
11	+4	+8	+6	+3	+3		
12	+3	+5	+3	+3	+3		
13	+4	+8	+5	+2	+2		
14	+8	+6	+8	+1	+4		
15	+2	+5	+6	+5	+5		
16	+3	+4	+3	+2	+1		
17	+4	+4	+6	+4	+4		
18	+5	+5	+4	+1	+2		
19	+5	+5	+9	+2	+4		
20	+3	+3	+7	+4	+5		
21	+4	+6	+4	+1	+1		
22	+6	+6	+9	+1	+3		
23	+3	+7	+4	+3	+2		
24	+7	+5	+6	+1	+3		
25	+2	+4	+6	+4	+5		
26	+5	+6	+2	+2	+2		
27	+5	+8	+4	+3	+3		
28	+4	+6	+9	+1	+5		
29	+2	+4	+7	+5	+4		
30	+6	+7	+8	+1	+3		
31	+4	+5	+2	+3	+2		
32	+7	+7	+8	+1	+5		
33	+3	+8	+5	+2	+1		
34	+3	+4	+6	+5	+5		
35	+3	+5	+5	+5	+5		
36	+5	+7	+4	+4	+3		
37	+7	+5	+8	+1	+3		
38	+4	+7	+6	+2	+1		
39	+3	+5	+3	+3	+3		
40	+3	+8	+5	+3	+2		
41	+3	+5	+5	+8	+7		
42	+3	+4	+2	+2	+2		
43	+3	+7	+5	+4	+2		
44	+8	+7	+8	+1	+3		

YOUR MONEY & HOW TO KEEP IT IN THE FAMILY

During any working day, we get asked all sorts of questions by all sorts of people. Young couples with families, home buyers, people on their own. Questions about mortgages and tax relief, independent taxation, divorce, selling the family home and so on.  
"Questions and Answers" is free from Allied Dunbar.  
It deals with such questions as — Can I lose the tax relief on my mortgage? Can I give my home to my family? Does independent taxation affect joint bank accounts? All these and many more are answered — simply and practically — in 28 useful pages.

FREE



To receive your copy, simply complete the coupon and post it to: Sue Hunt, Allied Dunbar Assurance plc, FREEPOST, Swindon SN1 1XZ (no stamp needed). Alternatively, phone 0800 010500 (no charge).  
We will let you have details of our free Financial Health Check at the same time.

Please send WITHOUT OBLIGATION my copy of "Questions and Answers" and details of your free service.

(Block Capitals please)  
(Mr/Mrs/Miss) Initials \_\_\_\_\_ Surname \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Town \_\_\_\_\_

County \_\_\_\_\_ Post Code \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone (Home/Work) \_\_\_\_\_

NO STAMP NEEDED  
OR PHONE 0800 010500  
(24 HOURS)

ALLIED DUNBAR  
Member of LAMTRI

Wrong connection

From Mr John Crompton  
Sir, Any hopes I may have had that the electricity privatisation would lead to a better response to customers have been dashed even before it has taken off.  
I used a coupon in a newspaper advert to register with the Share Information Office — having found it difficult to get through on the telephone. The coupon requested only one's full name and address. I have now

received confirmation from the Share Information Office in Bristol that I am registered — but for shares in the wrong company.  
The explanatory leaflet explains the necessity to be registered with the company/board for which one is a customer in order to receive the customer incentive benefits. It also states that they have registered people in accordance with their address.  
I have now had to write to Bristol — contact by telephone still impossible — to advise

them of the correct details. My point is that it would surely have been better to request people to state which board they were a customer of in the newspaper coupon as everybody would surely know the answer. It looks as if the methods used by the Share Information Office to assess this information are no more accurate than those used by the old electricity boards to produce estimated bills!  
Yours faithfully,  
JOHN CROMPTON,  
14d Donovan Avenue, N10.

Plea for fair tax on loan perk

EMPLOYEES who receive loans from their employers at preferential rates of interest are fighting for a fairer deal on the taxation of this perk (Sara McConnell writes).  
Those with cheap mortgages, in particular, say they are paying too much tax. This is because the Inland Revenue is using an official rate of interest that is higher than the standard rate of interest charged by the main lenders.  
Tax bills are worked out by deducting the rate paid from the official rate of interest and charging tax on the difference.

The official rate is 15.5 per cent, which is 1 per cent higher than most mortgages. Until this week the official rate was 16.5 per cent.  
The problem mostly affects employees of banks, building societies and other financial institutions. Employees will normally lend employees between £40,000 and £50,000 at a rate of about 5 per cent interest on any portion of a mortgage above that which is usually charged at the customer rate.  
Unsecured loans or season ticket loans with rates of interest lower than the official rate are also liable for tax on the difference. The rules apply even if the loan is interest free. But the Revenue will ignore any benefit of less than £200 a year. For example, on an interest-free season ticket loan of £1,000 a year, the Inland Revenue would assess the benefit at £150, 15.5 per cent of £1,000. This would keep an employee comfortably within the £200 tax exempt limit.  
Banks, building societies and unions are lobbying for an amendment to the regulations to be included in next year's Budget, after an unsuccessful attempt this year.

Charles Pocock, senior taxation manager at Barclays, said: "Barclays, along with other clearing banks and financial institutions, is producing away to get the law changed. We had a sympathetic hearing from the Inland Revenue but nothing was taken on board by ministers. It runs counter to the taxpayers' charter if two borrowers are living next door to each other, one is a bank employee and one isn't and one is paying tax on interest charged at a commercial rate and one isn't."  
The British Bankers' Association estimated that about £13 million in tax was lost last year by more than 100,000 bank, building society and insurance company employees.



Pocock: seeking change

WHEN SHOULD A WOMAN TAKE OUT A PENSION?  
Ring our free Moneyline from 9.30 a.m. - 5.30 p.m., 7 days a week, on 0800 282 101  
SAVE & PROSPER  
THE INVESTMENT HOUSE

THE RISKS AND REWARDS OF EQUITY INVESTMENT

How You Can Make the Most of Today's Markets - Tax-Free.

It's a fact that one of the best ways to build real long-term wealth is through equity investment. But with the Gulf situation and the uncertain short-term outlook for the British economy challenging even the most experienced UK investor, it's understandable that current market volatility may be putting you off.

Should it really? Often the best time to buy is when the outlook is at its gloomiest. Indeed, the greater risk now could be to be out of markets altogether — to be caught out when the bear finally turns to a bull. Furthermore, following recent price falls, selected UK stocks present excellent value and a real buying opportunity for long-term investors.

So how best to take advantage of this potential? Why PEPs. Why now.

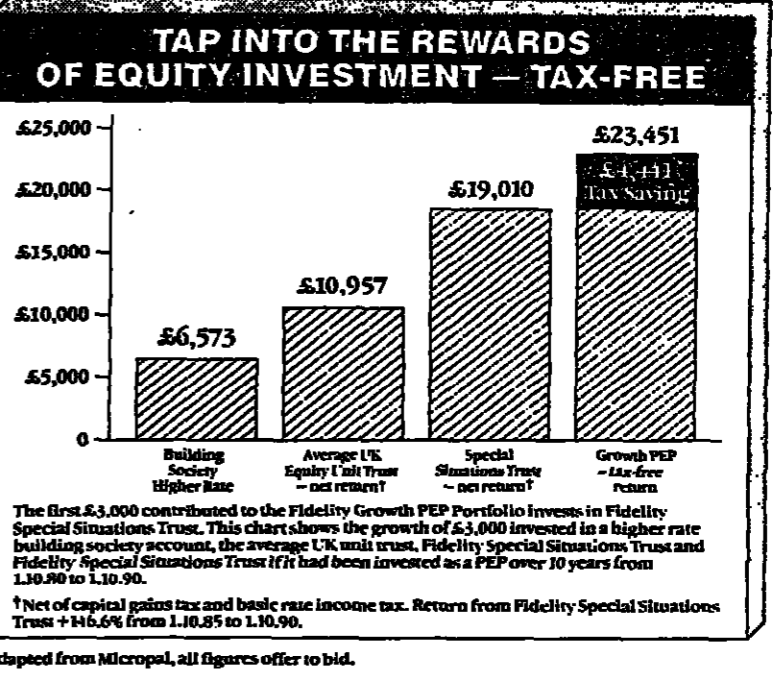
Investors looking to the UK should look first at the advantages of investing through unit trust PEPs. They offer the ideal combination of the key features of unit trusts plus attractive tax breaks:

- Professional management by experienced investment specialists.
- Active investment management with constant monitoring of new opportunities.
- Spread of risk by investing across a broad range of stocks and shares.
- And no tax to pay on income or capital growth.

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Once again the investors come last in the considerations of an insurance company. Holders of Sun Life's US bonds fund will be sent letters on Monday telling them that the life company has decided to close the fund on December 14.

The policyholders have not been consulted on the decision and are being given just five weeks' notice until the closure. If they do not respond to the letters their investment will be automatically transferred to Sun Life's fixed-interest fund. With a total of £1 million invested, the fund is small and its performance in a sickly sector has been poor. It has given an average growth of 4 per cent a year over the past five.

But now, at the bottom of a bombed-out US bond market, is not the time to force investors to bail out. David Kauders, an independent financial adviser who has more than 50 clients in the fund, is hopeful that the American bond market is about to rise as American interest rates fall.

Investors have been attracted by his arguments that sterling is too high and that there are gains to be made from such a fund as

the pound falls. Now they find themselves dumped unceremoniously in a fixed-interest fund with none of the growth potential.

Those investors who find the offer unacceptable and decide to transfer their investment to other companies still offering US bond funds, will find themselves out of pocket. They may also incur a capital gains tax bill. Others could face surrender penalties on their policies.

Since the crash of 1987 investment groups have been telling investors that they must keep faith and not to withdraw from the market. Here is a group of investors who have made a conscious decision to go into a specific fund and who will not be able to sit it out and wait for an upturn in their investment. They can rightly feel robbed.

Sun Life says it has 34 funds and, during a review, decided there were a couple of funds that did not warrant keeping because of their size. Mr Kauders argues

## Forced to quit at the bottom



### COMMENT

LINDSAY COOK  
WEEKEND MONEY EDITOR

that the fund in question did not take much managing as it was primarily invested in medium- and long-term bonds.

The cost in disillusioned investors could well outweigh any savings the insurance group makes. They and their brokers may think twice before putting money with an insurance company that treats them in such a cavalier way.

### Split interests

Joint bank accounts are likely to lose a lot of their attraction for millions of couples next year. The big four

banks have decided not to pay interest gross to non-taxpayers who have joint accounts with taxpayers when composite rate tax is scrapped in April.

The explanations for their reluctance to offer this basic service is that it will cost a lot, and that their computers are not up to it. They also maintain that paying the interest in equal halves may cause legal difficulties later on.

Building societies, however, are just getting on with it. So are TSB and Abbey National, whose roots probably bring them closer to their customers than their loftier high street rivals.

There are 15 million non-

taxpayers. They are mostly housewives, children and pensioners. It may be that because they have low incomes the banks are less interested in them than they would be if their earnings were higher.

But it should be remembered that many of them are only temporarily non-taxpayers, and their partners may have high salaries and investments. Others will grow up to be the high net worth individuals that banks spend so much to pursue.

Joint accounts are the basis of the household finances of a large proportion of couples. Many will have to rethink this if the accounts involve them in long and tedious reclaiming of tax, which they need not have paid in the first place.

The accounts make financial sense. They allow couples to amalgamate their funds and earn higher rates of interest than two single accounts would provide. In addition, they ensure that a

non-working wife or widow is not stranded without money.

It seems a little disingenuous for banks, who have been telling customers since the introduction of independent taxation in April that interest earned on joint accounts is regarded as belonging to couples on a 50/50 basis, to hide behind trust law to stop them actually paying the interest in two lots.

The decision affects both interest-bearing current accounts and savings accounts, with as many as one in three joint accounts having a non-taxpayer. Where current accounts are concerned the amounts of interest will be mostly trivial. On average each party might expect to earn £15 a year in interest. The tax involved is probably too small to bother claiming back. With savings accounts there is a real loss in having to wait a year without access to the money deducted.

The delay will give couples ample time to decide whether they want to transfer accounts to an institution that will only deduct as much tax as is necessary and not more.

## Insurers consider tapping bonuses



Scarfield: judgment

A CHANGE in the way life assurance companies disclose their profits could encourage with-profits companies to furnish shareholders with funds that until now have been considered as policyholders'.

The funds at stake run into billions of pounds and are referred to as a life company's "estate". They are funds not needed to maintain existing policyholders' bonuses and have arisen because previous generations of policyholders did not receive all the bonuses they should have.

Although the question of ownership has never been formally settled, proprietary companies — companies with shareholders — have traditionally taken the view that about 90 per cent of the estate belongs to policyholders and 10 per cent to shareholders. Investment profits are then distributed proportionately.

But in a recent report by Goldman Sachs, the investment bank, it is suggested that life companies are moving towards attributing a higher proportion of their estates to shareholders. Indeed, arguments can be advanced that the whole estate belongs to them, it says.

The principle supporter of the move is London and Manchester Assurance, which last month confirmed that it was moving towards placing 100 per cent of its estimated £187 million estate in the hands of shareholders.

David Jubb, chief executive, said: "We would take the view that the traditional 90/10 basis is not the right one... that part of the estate which isn't needed for policyholders' expectations may be regarded as belonging to shareholders. I think we are moving towards that and that others may follow."

Goldman Sachs and other analysts believe that the introduction of a new accounting procedure for life offices, proposed recently by the

Association of British Insurers, will bring about further change. The new method would require all life companies to state clearly how much of the profits from the estate will be received by shareholders.

This, say analysts, will force life companies to confront the issue of ownership and increase shareholders' benefits.

With-profits investors should note that these moves are unlikely to have any immediate impact on their policies. Mutual companies are not affected and proprietary companies can only increase the money they give directly to shareholders by 0.5 per cent a year.

Analysts suggest that the biggest risks occur with the smaller offices whose with-profit policies are no longer competitive. Such companies are often tempted to close their with-profits funds to new business. In such cases they will not feel the need to do

more than the basic minimum for their policyholders.

In insurance law, the basic minimum is defined only as the "realistic expectations" of policyholders, which leaves ample scope for the company's estate to be channelled off to shareholders over time.

Larger companies that have increased their shareholders' profit ratios recently include the Prudential, Refuge Assurance and Britannic Assurance. These companies' estates are still growing and at the end of 1989, were estimated to stand at £5.9 billion, £907 million and £1.2 billion respectively.

Other big players such as Legal & General and Guardian Royal Exchange have adopted a different route and used policyholders' funds to develop new sales outlets. Goldman Sachs reports that this also weakens a company's estate while benefiting shareholders.

Senior life industry executives seem unwilling to make plain their views on the question and ethics of estate ownership. Hugh Scarfield, president of the Institute of Actuaries, said that any company increasing its shareholder participation ratio should be judged, not on principle, but in its own right.

He said: "I can see circumstances when it's right — if there is extra capital coming in from shareholders and there are fewer with-profits policyholders, for example. But if it's just a case of trying to bleed the with-profits policyholders' surplus then I can see everything wrong in that."

Youssef Ziai, an analyst with UBS Phillips & Drew, drew attention to an idealistic alternative. He said it had been suggested at an actuaries' that if life companies were genuinely concerned about ownership they would return the estate to the former policyholders or their relatives. It is they, after all, whose premiums gave rise to it, he added.

PAUL NUKI

## Clients left beached by 'overseas' investment firm sunk in litigation

By TONY HETHERINGTON

A BRITISH investment company, based at a remote farmhouse in West Yorkshire, is under investigation by Belgian authorities after complaints from clients that several million pounds are apparently missing.

The trade department in London has also been informed about First Overseas Investment Services (FOIS), which puts clients' funds into commodity and financial futures and options.

Although it is a British company, FOIS is not authorised by the Securities and Investments Board (SIB), or any other City watchdog body, as it claims to conduct all its investment business outside the United Kingdom.

Its actual centre of operations appears to be in Brussels, where FOIS has what it calls its "transmission office". Nevertheless, FOIS's sales literature is printed in English and appears to be that of a normal British investment firm.

According to its literature, FOIS pools money attracted from ordinary investors. The funds are then placed under the management of one of the company's trading advisers.

"The results speak for themselves," the company claims. "Our syndicates have consistently shown excellent but steady growth, without the ups and downs that the amateur investor experiences."

This, though, is not the experience of dozens of investors who have been told that their money has become the subject of a legal battle between FOIS and one of its own trading advisers. One investor



Limited access: FOIS's registered office at an isolated farmhouse in West Yorkshire

who sent \$11,000 to FOIS last year became concerned when he was unable to obtain promised monthly statements of account.

He then asked for his money to be returned, but was told by Tony Groskamp, a FOIS director, that the company was engaged in litigation with one of its advisers.

"Under the present circumstances, FOIS Ltd cannot honour any redemption requests," Mr Groskamp wrote. "FOIS Ltd has temporarily ceased active operations in

order to assess the financial position."

An investor from Bedfordshire has complained that he invested with FOIS after the company had fallen out with its adviser and stopped placing funds under his control, but has still been told that he cannot withdraw his money.

First Overseas is run by two Dutchmen, Conrad "Tony" Groskamp and Lambertus "Bert" Niemaatverdiert. Until recently its registered office was in Brunswick Place, London. The office was, though, no more than the address of a company formation agent that took in mail for the firm.

In August, Mr Groskamp told the Registrar of Companies that FOIS was moving its registered office to an address in Ripponden, a village outside Halifax, West Yorkshire. Enquiries this week revealed the address to be that of Craig Tuck, whose company, Straightgame, advertised earlier this year that for an annual fee of £15, companies could use the Yorkshire farmhouse as their registered office.

Mr Tuck made clear to enquirers that members of the public would face serious problems if they tried to call at the farmhouse to inspect the books and records that all companies must make available at their registered office.

"We are situated on a private farm, where access is obtained by way of a private

road. Our address is not printed on road maps and it is almost impossible for anyone to find us without great difficulty," Mr Tuck told enquirers.

Mr Tuck himself was found in June, however, by lawyers acting for Andrew Lloyd Webber, the composer. Mr Tuck had threatened to establish a business under the name "Andrew Lloyd Webber Lavatory Cleaning Services".

The composer could have bought the rights to the name, simply to avoid any embarrassment to his name, but he chose instead to apply to the High Court for an injunction barring the misuse of his name. Lawyers say Mr Tuck similarly attempted to establish a lavatory cleaning business in the name of a prominent banker.

Attempts to contact Mr Tuck this week failed, as both telephones at his premises, the new registered office of First Overseas, were giving the number unobtainable signal.

The man First Overseas blames for its misfortunes is Michael Batterman, a New York commodity trader. David Cutner, the company's lawyer, said this week that FOIS was suing Mr Batterman for \$10 million in fees and damages.

He said: "The claim is that Mr Batterman overstated the amount of profit that had been earned, and as a result of that was able to obtain for himself incentive payments."

He drew fees totalling \$4

million, but FOIS claims that he was losing money.

Some bank accounts in Mr Batterman's name have been frozen as a result of court action by FOIS. Mr Cutner gave warning that legal proceedings are still at a very early stage and investors could be in for a long wait.

There is, though, no explanation as to why FOIS chose Mr Batterman to manage investors' money. A simple check would have shown that he had been expelled from the New York Stock Exchange, and was barred from the investment industry for two years for his involvement in stock manipulation.

Nor is there any adequate explanation as to why two Dutchmen operating from an office in Brussels should choose to incorporate their business in England and then hide it in a part of the country said to be almost inaccessible.

Both Messrs Groskamp and Niemaatverdiert were involved in a previous attempt to attract funds for a pooled options scheme. In 1982 they were directors of First National Securities, a London subsidiary of FOIS.

First National attempted unlawfully to solicit funds for investment schemes that were not authorised by the trade department. The company ceased to operate when it was revealed that the real name of John MacMillan, a senior executive, was Norrey Brooke.

Brooke, a known swindler who served three years in prison for fraudulent conversion, took \$3 million from investors in 1981 through Churchill Capital, a company offering a pooled options scheme.

However, Mr Niemaatverdiert has denied having had any links with Brooke. "Mr Norrey Brooke is not known to us, and never had any assignment or relation with us," he said.

The current financial position of FOIS is unknown, but its latest filed accounts, for 1988, show that even if investors were losing money, directors and staff were profiting. Seven directors and employees shared a total of \$853,657.

The SIB said this week that as it had never authorised First Overseas, complaints were a matter for the trade department.

A DIT official said: "I'm afraid I can only say that we never comment on whether or not we are investigating the affairs of any individual company. We would, though, be interested to hear from any clients of First Overseas who wish to place information before us, and we would certainly respond to that."

## Electricity puts spark in Peps

By LINDSAY COOK, MONEY EDITOR

THE Skipton Building Society is offering a free dealing service in electricity shares for its savers who buy shares in any number of the 12 distribution companies. The society estimates a family of four buying shares in all the companies could make a potential saving of £720 on the service being offered through Capel-Cure Myers Capital Management.

A free share application and checking service is also being offered. Ian Hepworth, general manager, said: "The free application checking service should also encourage investors, as in previous privatisations many people have had their applications rejected due to errors on application forms."

The proceeds of the sale of shares will be paid directly into Skipton savings accounts. Torric & Co, the independent Edinburgh stockbroker, is offering a safety net for investors in the electricity companies. Dealing will be free on any company whose

shares open at discount, if the seller applied for the shares through the broker. For investors showing a profit the commission will be £15 per individual holding plus £5 per holding of the same issue for other family members.

Pilling & Co, the private client stockbroker, will sell up to four electricity holdings in the same company for families for £7. To qualify, applications for 300 or more shares must be made via the broker.

While the largest personal equity plan (Pep) providers are mostly not offering special electricity deals many brokers and investment groups are. Killik & Co will transfer same company into a Pep free of charge. The plan will also have no initial or annual management charges. Smaller holdings will be subject to a flat charge of £40.

Perpetual Portfolio Management will charge a £10 transfer fee for shares applied for directly and will levy no

annual management charge. It will, however, make a charge of £1.50 for dividend collection and £10 for each subsequent call payment.

Granville Investment Management expects investors to use the tax free plans if the shares open at a substantial premium. Shareholders will be able to transfer shares bought for £6,000 into a plan even if their value is higher. The charge for opening a plan is £50 with a 1.25 per cent annual fee. There will also be a one-off charge of £10 for each electricity stock registered.

Sharelink has announced that it will take no new clients for its application and dealing service, which will allow clients to deal before allotment letters are issued. The Birmingham broker has reached its target of 96,000 customers for its privatisation service.

David Jones, chief executive, said that by balancing the capacity with the customer demand it hoped to provide a reliable and efficient service.

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THE INVESTMENT HOUSE



SUMMARY

Investment group holes up

INVESTORS wanting to find out more about a British investment company, which appears to have a centre of operation in Brussels, have to travel to an isolated farmhouse in West Yorkshire. The registered office of First Overseas Investment Services can be reached down a private road and its address is not printed on road maps. Several million pounds of clients' money is apparently missing and the company is refusing to honour any redemption requests. Page 42

On good terms



Sophie Mirman is still on good terms with her bank, although Sock Shop, her last business venture, collapsed owing £16 million. She told Alan Hamilton of the disastrous lunch that marked the beginning of the end. Page 43

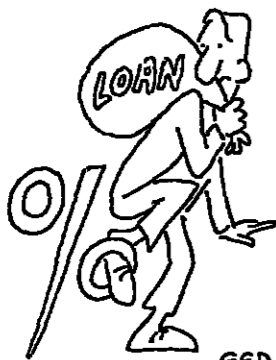
Loss of life

Shareholders could benefit at the expense of policyholders if life companies decide to pay them a higher proportion of their estates. Page 42

Tax on subsidy

Subsidised mortgages are costing workers too much because of the way tax on the concession is calculated. The Inland Revenue insists on comparing the loans with an official interest rate that is higher than normal. Page 41

On the draw



Ernie answers back in this week's letters page and explains what happens when the same bond number comes up twice in one draw. Page 41

Split decision

New rules will allow banks to split the interest on joint accounts so non-taxpayers can receive interest gross. But the big four banks will not be offering this service. Page 40

Conflict of law

Concern about a possible conflict between the Financial Services Act and common law was voiced this week by the Law Commission. Page 40

Fair shares

Free dealing in shares of the electricity companies is being offered by the Skipton Building Society. Other offers follow thick and fast. Page 42

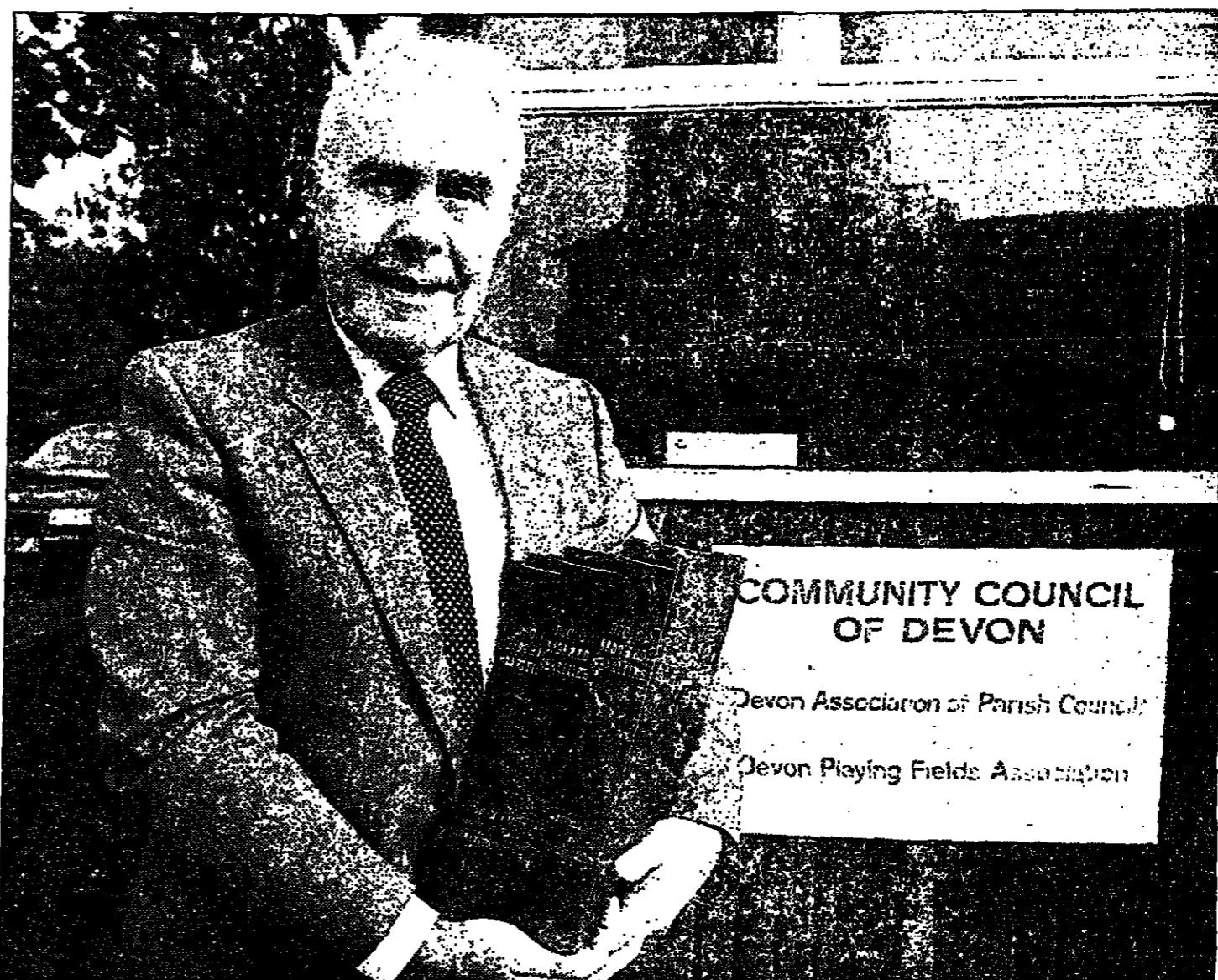
THE SUNDAY TIMES

Retreat into recession

Even now, the chancellor finds it hard to concede the country is in recession. But his autumn statement painted a bleak picture of Britain's prospects. When will the pain end? Can John Major conjure up the recovery the Tories need to win the general election? Analysis in The Sunday Times tomorrow.

# Hunt begins for forgotten millions

Barbara Ellis reports on the research recovering unused income from thousands of long-forgotten charities



Hidden funds: Bill Bailey, of Devon's Community Council, uncovered income of £30 million a year in charitable trusts

A QUIET treasure hunt is under way all over Britain, with researchers seeking out under-exploited assets and unused income belonging to thousands of charitable trusts.

The researchers say that with help to update centuries-old objectives and antiquated investment policies, the long-neglected charities could become a useful source of financial assistance to an unexpectedly wide range of people around the country.

The Charity Commission lists about 170,000 charities on its central register. In September, it began a year-long national census to check how many of those were still active, or even in existence. But some counties are already ahead of the field. In Devon, public libraries have full lists of all the trusts within its borders, gathered in a three-year survey begun in 1987 by Bill Bailey of the Community Council.

Initially, Mr Bailey wrote to the "correspondents" or secretaries of more than 4,000 registered charities. Less than 20 per cent responded, many only to say that Mr Smith or Mrs Jones had died years previously. But research into local archives and contacts with vicars and postmasters eventually helped complete profiles of 96 per cent of the charities.

Devon's charitable trusts proved far richer than expected. Having guessed at total income of £1 million a year, Mr Bailey uncovered £30 million and sees similar potential in the rest of the county.

"Other counties have not done a

review to the same depth, but why should Devon be any different from, say, Yorkshire?" Mr Bailey said.

One of the aims of the review was to help the charities modernise. "A heck of a lot were supposed to be dishing out five loaves and two small fishes, but they had stopped doing that in the 1700s."

The charities' most frequent objectives, according to Mr Bailey, are education, religion, animal welfare and the relief of poverty.

Among those looking for ways to adapt was the Trappell Trust of Cyst Honiton, Devon, where the bellringers toll a knell for Edward Trappell every November 26, in exchange for a payment of 50p to split among as many as eight of them.

Every year since the early 1700s, the bellringers' payment has come out of the income on a trust left by Mr Trappell to commemorate the day of his death and provide coal for the local poor. Originally a bequest of £5, the trust now produces an annual income of about £3.

"Nobody has coal fires these days," said the trust's treasurer. "We were building up the money, so the charity commissioners said it could be for gas or electricity."

So far, the trust has given £10 towards heating bills to one pensioner and is waiting to accumulate enough income for another gift.

Efforts to impose a moral code linger among a number of trusts. In Witherslack, Cumbria, couples who marry in the village and stay

childless for a year can claim a "maid's portion" of about £10 from a trust set up in 1662 under the will of Dean John Barwick, a former dean of St Paul's in London.

But there are only about three weddings a year in Witherslack and very few couples bother to

apply, according to the vicar of nearby Crosshwaite, who administers the trust. Dean Barwick, whose legacy financed the building of a church and school, also left coal and Christmas allowances for people who were deemed by the clergy to be in need.

Devonians are catching on to the idea of looking to obscure charities for special finance, said Mr Bailey. He has even been asked to find a charity that could help send a Plymouth man's son to America to study guitar playing. A musical education trust was found that was able to make a grant.

"You have to start by looking for the area of benefit. If you live in Plymouth, it is no good going to a charity in Exeter," he said.

In Dorset, Jenny Hyde of the Community Council is reaching the end of a survey of the county's 1,200 charities. Total income uncovered is close to £2 million, plus nearly another £1 million in undistributed income. The annual income of the individual charities ranges from 25p to £60,000.

As in Devon, charities are being encouraged to update their aims. Trusts originally set up to provide flannel petticoats or warm cloaks for widows have been allowed to switch their attention to heating

bills. Meanwhile, grants for apprentices have been reinterpreted as finance for higher education.

Some of the richest charity finds have been in Wiltshire, according to Doug Simpson, who researched the county before moving to work on the Charity Commission census.

**'A heck of a lot of charity trusts were supposed to be dishing out five loaves and two small fishes but they had stopped that in the 1700s'**

An immense amount of detective work by volunteers had led to the discovery of valuable land rights, he said.

In Chippenham, the Borrowlands charity was originally established to send two members to Parliament and maintain a causeway, but was absorbed by the local

authority when central government took on both tasks. The charity, which was rediscovered in 1974, had a lengthy battle to establish the rights to £6 million worth of assets, including land.

More recently, another Wiltshire charity successfully reclaimed from the church three acres of prime development land near Swindon, after a local historian spotted its apparently lapsed charitable status.

Mr Simpson said that counties such as Lincolnshire, Nottinghamshire and Suffolk had recognised the potential benefit to communities in tracking down charity money. Hereford, Lancashire and Worcester had also started research.

However, Kent, with more charities than any other county, had been resistant to the idea of supporting any research, Mr Simpson noted.

People thinking of applying for charity grants should not be put off by stated objectives such as "relief of the poor of the parish".

"In terms of the charity, it is all relative," said Mr Simpson. "If you live in a smart village where everyone has two Porsches and you only have one, you are relatively poorer."

## Fundraising fraud warning

By SARA MCCONNELL

CHARITIES are warning people to be careful to check the credentials of fundraisers who claim to be collecting money for good causes because they do not have the time or money to monitor the collectors' activities themselves.

Charities report continuing problems with fundraisers using the names of reputable organisations to collect money from the public and then keeping some or all of the cash.

There is no central agency to check the references of collectors and any monitoring has to be done by the charities.

John Kingston, director of fundraising for the Save the Children Fund, said: "We have hundreds of people raising money as volunteers and we couldn't check them all."

"There is no register and it would be impossible to keep one. So the public needs to be careful. It would be naive to expect there will never be any problems. But collecting money under false pretences is fraud."

The Charity Commission has confirmed that it has investigated complaints by a London charity that two organisations had set themselves up as fundraisers with names that gave the impression they were charities.

The commission only has limited powers of investigation and most concern registered charities. A spokesman said that the two

organisations were not registered and so fell outside the commissioners' jurisdiction.

But he added: "People write in complaining about the activities of fundraisers, and although most of our powers are directed towards the activities of registered charities, if people go around pubs, for example, pretending to collect for charity then walking away from it, this would concern us."

Tighter controls over fundraising, which would include strengthening the commissioners' powers, were proposed in a Home Office white paper in May 1989. But these were not included in the Queen's speech this week.

The white paper spelt out the findings of a working party appointed by the National Council for Voluntary Organisations (NCVO) in 1985. The abuses disclosed included "excessive sums retained by some fundraising practitioners, claims that part of the proceeds from the sale of goods or services will go to charity when, in fact, the amount given to charity is much smaller than donors might suppose, and dubious fundraising practices carried out in a charity's name but without its knowledge or approval".

If proposals in the white paper became law, fundraisers would have to provide donors with a breakdown of how much of the net profit, gross profit or money

received would go to the named charity.

Already, fundraisers making house-to-house or street collections have to obtain permission from the local council or police, but the white paper proposes that collectors should have to apply a month in advance for a licence.

Anyone collecting for charity on "private property to which the public has unrestricted access", such as a pub, would also need a licence.

But the government rejected the working party's plans to require all fundraisers to obtain the charity's written permission in advance on the grounds that it would discourage law-abiding fundraisers.

Hospitals, such as the Royal Brompton and the National Heart Hospital in London have central fundraising departments. But people also approach individual departments.

Dr Michael Rigby, director of paediatrics at the Royal Brompton, said: "People approach us because they are known to us from being treated at our hospital. A lot of small amounts of charitable donations come through these sources and about 80 per cent is from grateful patients. Every effort is made to check that bigger donors are registered charities, but perhaps we don't always check as carefully as we should. The potential for fundraising fraud is enormous."



"Potential for fraud is enormous": Dr Michael Rigby, director of paediatrics at the Royal Brompton

## IN TIMES OF CHANGE LOOK TO BLUE CHIP PERFORMANCE

The performance of the stock market following the UK's entry into the ERM and the fall in interest rates underlines once again the need to invest in high quality British companies. We believe that many of these companies have strong defensive qualities and are currently attractively valued, making this an excellent time to invest.

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\*All figures are to 31st October 1990 and are based on the unit's performance since launch.

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